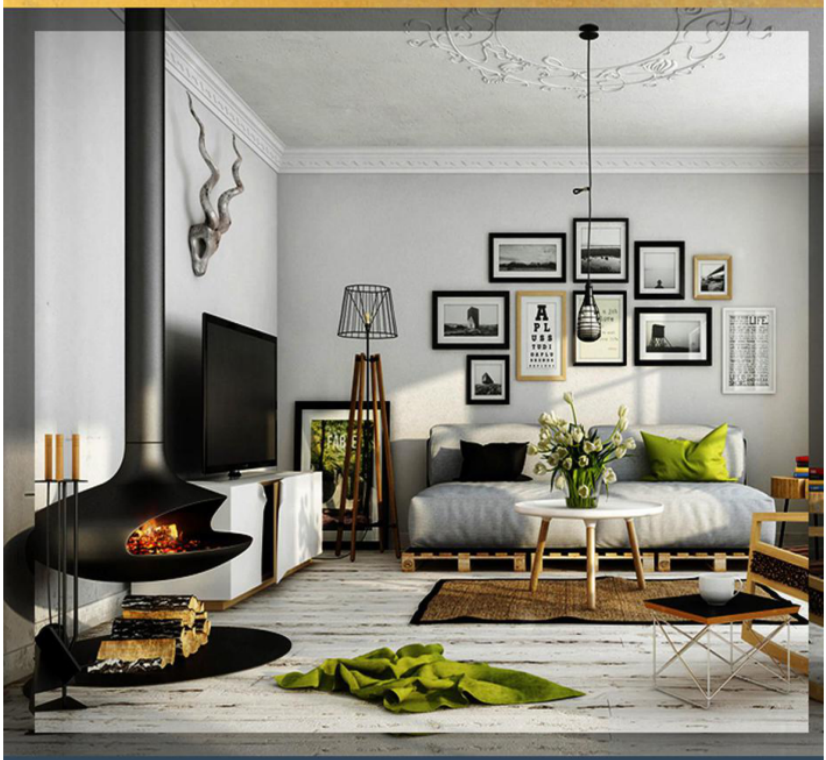
BEGINNER'S

BOOK OF HOME DECORATING AND INTERIOR DESIGN



LEARN THE ART OF

CLEANING AND ORGANIZING YOUR HOME

Beginners Book of Home Decorating and Interior Design

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BEGINNERS BOOK OF HOME DECORATING AND INTERIOR DESIGN

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Written by Adil Masood Qazi.

BEGINNERS BOOK OF HOME DECORATING AND INTERIOR DESIGN

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Coffee cup readings

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PREFACE

The book is divided into **three** parts for convenience of making most out of this book; the **first part** is **"knowing interior design"** which includes learning the basic terminology used by interior designers, introduction to interior design profession, history of interior design profession and lastly the education plan for interior design. **Second part** is about the **"learning interior design"** includes every stage from building an interior design concept to making a plan and completing the entire project. Lastly the **third part** "**The handy Tips"** deals with the handy tips that can help you consider all the important tips required by interior designers.

From the prehistoric times the quest for a comfortable shelter and environments has driven humans to creatively adopt ways smart and sustainable.

Over a period of historic timeline many professions emerged as the need to survive challenged human mind. Like various professions the art and science of shelter décor became a popular profession and a subject of interest in academic disciplines.

Interior designers learn the skills and techniques to make the living environments aesthetically beautiful and functionally practical. They learn to create ambiance through the use of color and all the supporting elements of design.

This beginner's interior design book covers all the basic ingredients from the interior design terminologies to understanding of elements and principals of design. The book is a road map that will help interior designers to learn the basics to start their professional practice or to complete DIY home decorating projects.

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SUMMARY

PART 1

The Glossary of Interior design

GLOSSARY IS AN ALPHABETICAL list of terms or words of a particular domain of knowledge, and understanding with the definitions for those terms.

Interior design: Is the process of designing the interior decoration of a room or building to enhance its beauty or make it look attractive for people.

A

Abacus: A flat top part of capital of a column, it supports the architrave.

Architrave: The lintel or beam that rests on the capitals of the columns. It is an element of Classical architecture.

Abstract: Style of design that uses general forms against detailed realistic representations.

Acanthus leaf: A leaf decoration mostly used on furniture, especially on brackets and legs.

Accent colors: Contrast colors used to enhance room color schemes. Accent term in interior design is generally referred to as secondary or supporting the main theme.

Accent lighting: Controlled and focused lighting for accenting interior decor elements or architectural details of a space.

Accessories: Objects such as books, plants, vases, lamps, and decorative pieces that décor interior space is considered accessories.

Acetate: A synthetic fiber made from cellulose, it is usually combined with other fibers to add a luxurious feel and appearance. Acetate is used in many fabrics which is used to décor interior enviornments.

Acroterium: Originally an ornament on the roof corners of Greek temples.

Adam style: British neoclassical style that dominated during the latter half of the 1700's. It is characterized by slender, graceful lines, refined shapes and restrained ornamentation.

Ageing: Decorative technique used to create the effect of wear-and-tear on wooden, painted, plastic, or other surfaces. It is used on furniture and wood to create effects that enhance interior environments.

Ambry: In medieval churches a chamber for the storage of goods. The addition of doors gave it the cupboard form

Ambulantes: A small portable table used as accent furniture piece.

American colonial: Term applied to all American furniture used by the colonies before the American Revolution. This style includes rough handmade pieces of the early American frontier.

American oriental: A machine-made local rug with Oriental design or patterns, and colors to resemble a hand-tied Oriental rug.

Amorini: Cupid ornaments (decorative element) found on Italian Renaissance furniture.

Angel bed: A bed with a canopy and no front support like head board.

Antique: Anything ranging from a piece of furniture to art. Mostly pieces that are 100 years old are considered as antique.

Antique finish (or Antiquing): A paint or finish that is applied to an object (mostly furniture items) to give an aged or old look to suit a particular interior ambiance.

Antique satin: A drapery (mostly curtain) fabric that has a lustrous shiny effect, normally made of rayon/acetate blends.

Apothecary chest: A low chest with small drawers that was originally used to store herbs for cooking, now used by many interior designers as accent table in interior spaces.

Arabesque: Decorative scroll work and other intricate / complex ornamentation consisting of foliage, vases, leaves and fruits, or fantastic human and animal figures.

Arcade: A series of arches (round and pointed), with supporting columns or piers.

Area rug: A small rug or carpet which covers only part of the floor. Interior designers use area rugs in many spaces to give the feel of warmth and elegance.

Arm chair: Seating that has both a backrest and armrests for support.

Armoire: A wardrobe with doors and shelves for storage, they also serve a decorative purpose in an interior space.

Art deco: A decorative geometric style of home furnishings and architecture popular in the 1920's and 1930's. Its significant characteristics include rounded fronts, wood furniture with chrome hardware and, or, glass tops.

Art glass: Decorative glass it includes stained, beveled, fused, blown, etched, leaded, and cut styles. It is added as decorative element to exterior window spaces.

Art Nouveau: Decorative style developed in France between 1890 and 1910. Tiffany lamps are a good example of this style; it has ornate and flowing lines.

Art print: A reproduction of an original piece of artwork (usually paintings)

Arts & Crafts: Commonly known as Mission style. Arts and Crafts style was popular from the late 1800's through the 1920's. The Arts and Crafts was a reactionary movement launched against the mass-produced and ornate Victorian furniture of that time.

Asian style: A term referring to styles of the Far East. Such as Chinese, Japanese, or Korean designs.

Aubusson: A tapestry with scenery used for wall hangings and upholstery (furniture covering fabrics).

Austrian blind: A decorative window treatment with a scalloped lower edge. When the blind is drawn upwards it maintains the scalloped edge.

Ambiance: Atmosphere and character of a space.

Aesthetics: Set of principles concerned with the nature and appreciation of beauty, especially in art.

Accessories: Decorative objects of art for décor of interiors

Appliqué: Decorative fabrics sewn together to make a single fabric for furnishings.

Anthropometric: The study of human measurement, this helps to adjust furniture and space according to human body sizes.

Adhesive: A sticky substance to bond two materials together

Ashlar: A rectangular arrangement of stone used in a wall.

B

Baffle: A device fixed to a light fitting to prevent and reduce the intensity of light from glaring into the eyes.

Back splat: A slat of wood used in the middle of a chair back.

Bachelor's chest: A small low height chest originating in the 1700's. Used as accent table by interior designers.

Backing: A fine coating that is applied to the back of fabrics to prevent seam slippage and excess wear and tear.

Bagging: A painting technique in which a crumpled bag (or other material) is dipped in paint and dabbed onto a glazed or emulsion wall to create textured patterns to enhance interior ambiance.

Baize: Wool fabric resembling felt (usually green) used on gaming tables.

Balance: The arrangement of objects in a space to adjust spaces that they look visually equal.

Balloon shade: Window treatment with gathered fabrics, and soft billowy folds look.

Baluster: A small mostly decorative turned, square, or flat column that supports a rail.

Banquette: A long upholstered seat, that is usually built-in.

Bar: A counter like piece of furniture typically used for mixing and serving drinks.

Baroque: A decorative ornate style that originated in Italy in the 1600's. The style is characterized by irregular curves, twisted columns, elaborate scrolls, and oversize moldings.

Barrel back: A chair or sofa with the arms and back forming a continuous curve style.

Batik: Hand-printed fabric that originated in Indonesia; technique involves using wax as a resist to create a negative image in patterns.

Batten: A strip of wood that is attached to a wall to provide supports for fixing fabric or paneling.

Batting: Thin layers of natural or synthetic cloth used to line cushions, pillows, quilts, to provide extra strength to main fabric.

Bauhaus: A style of the early 1900's taking its name from the German School of Architecture. This minimalist style has had a significant influence on contemporary architecture and furniture design.

Bed frame: It is a type of platform on which bed rests. Normally metal or wooden frame with legs used to raise the bed off of the floor, headboards can be attached to most bed frames.

Bed rails: Metal or wooden frames that join a headboard and footboard together.

Bed skirt: Pleated piece of fabric dropping from bottom of mattress to the floor.

Bedspread: A decorative fabric covering for a bed that can reach to the floor on either side and usually is large enough to cover the pillows.

Bench: A long seat made out of wood or any other material that can accommodate at least two people.

Bias: The cutting and sewing of fabric at a diagonal or 45 degree

angle in accordance to the fabrics pattern.

Beveled edge: Slanted polished edge of wood or any other material.

Bird's-eye: Marking of small spots often found in the wood from sugar maple trees.

Bistro table: Conventionally refers to a round table about 40" in height designed for small spaces and intimate dining. It is common for people to also refer to bistro tables as pub tables.

Blanket chest: A low box-like chest for storing blankets often called a hope chest. Designers place this chest in front of the bed foot board.

Blinds: Window coverings designed of either horizontal or vertical slats. Blinds can be made of wood, aluminum, fabric, or other materials. Used to block light and also act as a decorative window treatment.

Block printing: The oldest form of printing known to man. Motifs are obtained by the use of wooden, linoleum or copper blocks. Used for soft furnishing in residential interiors.

Bolster: A long and normally cylindrical stuffed pillow or cushion.

Bombe: Traditionally a low baroque style chest with bulging convex sides originated in France. Normally it is carved or hand painted.

Bonheur-du-jour: A small French writing table that generally has tall legs; sometimes fitted to hold toilet accessories and miscellaneous items.

Bookcase: A piece of furniture with shelves that is normally used in an office or study for storing books.

Boudoir pillow: A small size decorative pillow, usually measuring about 12" x 16". Use to decorate furniture seats.

Boulle: A designer of the Louis the XIV period who was famous for his inlays of metal and tortoise shell in wooden furniture.

Bowback: A popular type of Windsor chair from 17th century, also with the style of a back resembling a bow back rocker.

Box Pleat: A symmetrical skirt pleat made by folding the fabric to the back of each side of the pleat to create a dentil pattern. Mostly used in sofa and curtain furnishings.

Break front: A china cabinet or bookcase that is divided vertically into three parts with the middle part projecting forward.

Brocade: A rich fabric with a raised pattern woven into it, brocades are richly colored.

Buffet (or Sideboard): A sideboard without a storage cabinet on top. The French definition of the word is "a small sideboard, a place to keep dishes." Normally it is placed in dining rooms.

Bunk bed: Two beds that are joined together so that one is placed above the other.

Bureau: A dresser used to store clothing also a piece of furniture with drawers used as a desk.

Button tufted: Buttons that are fabric covered and sewn through the upholstery surface and tied down, mostly used in Victorian upholstered furniture.

Bonsai: The art of dwarfing trees or plants by growing them in crates.

C

Calico: Cotton or cotton-blend fabric printed with small, colorful patterns. Generally used for sofa cushions.

Column: A decorative or functional rounded vertical structural element

California king: A bed size that measures 74"x86". This style is popular on the West coast of the United States.

Campaign furniture: Portable furniture that can fold made of flat components that can be assembled or disassembled.

Candle follower: Device fits onto the top of candle, and keeps the

wax from dripping down the side of the candle.

Cane: Split rattan, often used to cover chair seats and backs. Generally used in outdoor furniture

Cane chair: Cane chairs were first made in England in late 1600; they were very popular since they were cheap, light, and durable in use age.

Canopy bed: Bed that is supported by four tall posts at corners with a cross members joining the posts that may be used for a supporting a fabric canopy cover.

Canterbury: A portable wooden magazine placing rack named after the Bishop of England.

Capital: A decorative cap which is placed on a column, pillar, or pilaster.

Capping: Twisted ornamentation used to make furniture pieces more attractive and decorative for interior environments.

Card table: Folding table that originated in England during the late 1600's for passion for gambling.

Carlton table: 18th Century writing table that has an adjustable top.

Carved rug: Rug with a three-dimensional pattern

Case furniture: Non-upholstery furniture pieces such as tables, hutches, dressers, and chests

Casing: An enclosing frame around a door or window opening

Cast iron furniture: Iron furniture and decorative products made with molds. Popular since the 1800's for many items including garden furniture, plant stands

Casters: Round wheels attached by a swivel to the bottom of furniture pieces legs for easy mobility.

Centerpiece: A decorative ornament used to occupy the center of a dining table.

Ceramic tiles: Glazed clay tiles, which stand up to large amounts of wear and tear very well. Designers use it on floors and walls for decorative and functional purposes

Chaise lounge: An upholstered armchair with the back and seat lengthened than normal for reclining.

Chamfer: A corner or edge that is cut at an angle or beveled.

Chandelier: A ceiling-mounted lighting fixture consisting of two or more arms holding lights.

Chased: A metal surface that is decorated with ornaments which are embossed and carved

Chesser: A combination of a dresser and a chest.

Chesterfield: A sofa design with deep button tufting and large rolled arms that are the same height as the back.

Cheval mirror: A freestanding mirror swung in a vertical frame.

China Cabinet: A cabinet with, or without, glass fronts to store

Chippendale: A design that is more rectangular and heavier. It features include cabriole legs, ball and claw feet

Claw & Ball: A carved lions or birds claw clutching a sphere, generally at the end of a cabriole leg or pedestal table's base.

Club chair: An upholstered chair with arms normally made to match a sofa and covered in the same material to make it look like a set

Cocktail table: A long and low table normally positioned in front of a sofa for serving

Colonial: It is American furniture from the 1700's through the Revolutionary era.

Color scheme: Color combinations for the residential and commercial interiors of rooms and homes in general.

Color way: Term used in interior design to describe a color combination to elevate the interior spaces and environments

Comforter: Comforters cover the mattress, but not the box spring.

Console: Any type of table used along a wall.

Contemporary: A term covering many styles of furniture that developed in the latter half of the 1900's.

Corner cupboard: A triangular shaped dining room wooden china cabinet made to fit in the corner

Cornice: A molding that runs along the top of a curio or edge of the wall meeting with the ceiling

Couch: A term from the 17th and 18th Century used to refer to a daybed style

Country style: A casual style of 1980's, often featuring nature and nostalgic motifs.

Coving: A decorative plaster molding used to cover the joint between walls and ceiling.

Crackle: A special type of glaze finish used to create a fine network of cracks on the surface of furniture

Credenza: Sideboard or buffet table

Cresting: An ornament on the top of a structure of furniture

Croft: A small filing cabinet design from the 18th Century that had many small drawers and a top for writing

Curio (Collectors Cabinet): A case piece with glass in shelves, and doors for displaying collectibles.

Contrast: The difference in illumination level between two points

D

Damask: A heavy reversible fabric with pattern that is distinguished from the background by contrasting luster and shine

Doric: Showing a fluted, tapered shaft and a square capital, the Doric column is the simplest of the architectural orders.

Duct: A rectangular or round sheet metal or fiberglass pipe used to

transport warm or cooled air with in an interior space

Dumbwaiter: A small elevator used for vertically transporting food, mail, dishes, trays, etc.

Daventry: A small wooden chest of drawers with a sloped top for writing.

Daybed: A seating piece that can also serve as a bed for relaxing

Deboss: To press a design in leather

Design: The art of visualizing the appearance of an object or space.

Dhurrie rug: A woven wool or cotton rug featuring beautiful designs for covering floors

Dinette: A small dining set, which is often used in the kitchen.

Dining room: A formal room space dedicated to the serving of meals.

Disc foot: A flat, disc-shaped foot used on tables and chairs to establish balance and stability

Distemper: Paints made by mixing pigment with water and bound with glue, it was very popular before the arrival of emulsion paints

Distressed: A furniture trait where pieces are purposely dented or otherwise marked to make them look like old and rustic

Dovetail: Joint construction types made by cutting pins in the shape of dovetails, which fit between dovetails upon another piece for joinery

Dowry chest: A chest that was made to hold the personal belongings of a prospective bride.

Drapery: A draped fabric to cover windows, many different decorative styles have evolved over the period of time with different names

Dado: The lower part of an interior wall, which has been treated with decorative strip

Draught chair: The early English that is equivalent of a wingback chair.

Duvet cover: A removable cover that covers a down-filled comforter known as a duvet.

Dying: The process of applying color to fiber stock, yarn or fabric by dipping method

Detail: A drawing, showing the scaled details of design for an interior space

E

Early Renaissance: Early 1500's, the transitional period between Gothic Arts and the Classical Revival.

Easy chair: Any large chair which is comfortable and suitable for lounging.

Eclectic: A style of decorating by mixing furniture and accessories of various styles and periods.

Egyptian: This is the first "influential" style of design dating from 4000 to 300 B.C.

Elevation: An elevation is a view of a 3-dimensional object from the front position of a horizontal plane beside an object.

Elizabethan: A furniture style that emerged during the reign of Elizabeth I in England during the latter half of the 1500's.

Embroidery: Ornamental needlework consisting of designs worked on fabric to be used as soft furnishing

Eaves: The lower or outer edge of a roof which extends the side wall of a building.

Empire: This style is inspired by the Napoleonic Empire, which shows heavy looking classical designs and combine together straight lines and curves

Emulsion: A water-based paint that is mainly applied to walls and ceilings of interior and exterior architectural spaces

End table: A small accent table that is usually placed at the end of a couch.

Entertainment center: A piece of furniture designed for entertainment equipment such as TV'.

Engineered wood flooring: Flooring that is made from layers of wood bonded and glued together through adhesive.

Engraving: An intaglio printing process in which a design is embedded into a metal plate

Ergonomic: Term that relates to furniture designs and function according to the human form.

Entablature: The horizontal element that rests upon the columns in classical architecture style.

Etched glass: Glass decorated, carved, and marked by sandblasting or the use of hydrofluoric acid.

European style: Refined and mature style with great attention to detail and decorative ornamentation.

Eyeball spots: Semi-recessed lights set in the ceiling, which can be adjusted to throw light in different directions to create an interior ambiance.

English basement: A basement with half of its height above grade level.

F

Federal: Design period following the American Revolution till the early 1800's. Federal styles incorporate the neo-classical influences.

Fiberboard: A board made out of compressed wood fibers and glue.

Filigree: A decorative ornamentation that is often made with fine wires of gold or silver in the form of scrolls and arabesques.

Festoon blind: Similar to an Austrian blind, but with gathered scallops that run throughout the length of the blind.

Finial: A decorative detail that is carved or shaped to ornament the top of an upright piece such as a bedpost.

File cabinet: A piece of office furniture used for storing files.

Finish: The surface coating of an item.

Flambeau: A carved decoration made in the shape of a flaming torch.

Flare: The outward concave curve of a furniture leg.

Flock wallpaper: Wallpaper with a raised fabric pattern.

Floor lamp: A tall lamp with a base that stands on the floor.

Floor plan: A drawing, usually to scale, showing a view from above of rooms with furniture and accessories laid out.

Fresco: A lasting painting technique for walls and ceilings, created by mixing water-colors directly into wet plaster.

Futon: A Japanese-style mattress placed on a folding frame, used as both a seating piece and a bed.

Functionalism: A form of design based on functional use rather than on ornamentation and decoration.

Form: Form is the shape, visual appearance, or configuration of an object.

Flow: Smooth continuity achieved by design, and decor elements arranged in harmony.

Foam: Padding material used in upholstered furniture.

Focal point: An area to which the eye is drawn.

Footboard: The piece at the foot of a bed like headboard.

Frame: The wooden framework or structure of an upholstered piece of furniture.

French classic: French Classic design was largely base on not using curved line in furniture.

French Renaissance: Style dating from the mid 1400's to the early 1600's.

G

Gadroon molding: A rounded molding carved in convex curves that are used along the edges of table tops and chairs to avoid chipping.

Gargoyle: A grotesque carved figure or head used on building roofs projecting out to carry rain water down.

Gauge: The measure of the diameter of wire used in furniture.

Geometric panels: Decorative panels consisting of regular lines, curves, and angles.

Georgian: Elegant design of the 1700's, which is heavier and ornate.

Gilding: A coating with a thin layer of gold-like substance for interior finishes.

Gimp: An ornamental flat braid or round cord used as a trimming.

Glaze: A coloring technique used in the finishing process of furniture to highlight the grain of wood and to give a glossy sheen.

Glyph: A short, vertical groove or channel and a very common feature in Doric architecture.

Gobelin: A French tapestry and the name of the Parisian factory that manufactures it.

Goose-Neck Arm: A chair with curved wooden arms which resemble a goose's neck.

Gothic: (late 1100's to early 1500's) Pieces from this particular period are usually heavy in their weight with large scale and straight lines.

Grade: Level of the earth's surface.

Grain: The direction of the fibers in wood.

Grandfather clock: Normally 6 to 7 feet in height it is a freestanding floor clock made in wood with a pendulum inside its tower casing.

Grasscloth: Natural fiber wallpaper for interior décor

Grout: Thin mortar used for filling of gaps in between tiles and bricks in interior and exterior

Guard rail: Railing around an open raised platform made for protection (mostly ornamental)

H

Hall tree: It is a furniture piece to hang hats and rain coats or coats in the entrance hallway of a house

Halogen: A light that emits true color or neutral color characteristic.

Hand: A feel of textural qualities of a cloth or leather.

Hardwood: Wood procured from trees like oak, maple, mahogany, and walnut.

Hardwood frames: Upholstered furniture frames made from solid woods like oak or birch. These woods are normally seasoned and dried to avoid splitting after the furniture structure is completed.

Harvest table: It is a narrow rectangular table that has hinged drop leaves and can fit in small interior spaces

Handrail: Single railing on wall at stair to hold or support.

Hassock: Commonly also known as ottoman, upholstered footstool large enough to be used for seating.

Headboard: Structure rising above the mattress at the head side of the bed.

Hearth: The floor of a fire place, and the extension of noncombustible flooring material in front of the fireplace.

Hepplewhite: Furniture style which is neo-classic and followed Chippendale style from the late 1700's to about 1820 time frame.

High relief: In depth carving of the plane surface of any material (mostly wood). Decorative finished surfaces mostly table tops and wooden wall panels.

Highboy: A tall chest of drawers, style which was developed in 1700’s period

Highlighting: A color-removal technique in the finishing process to make wood grains visible.

Hope chest: Traditionally a decorative hinged-top chest for storing

items such as household goods and textile items for marriage.

Hue: A color tone such as red, yellow, blue.

I

Inlay: Decorative patterns made with pieces of different colors of woods or other materials, which have been set into the surface of wood furniture.

Inner tufting: Strong method of attaching and combining layers of padding below the quilted cover of a mattress to stop shifting and settling of the padding layers.

Inset tile: A tile with a different design than the rest of the tiles.

Intaglio: An illustration or design cut into a surface of the material to be used for decorative purpose.

Intarsia: An Italian type of decoration which is similar to inlay and marquetry, in this method the design is embedded into the wooden surface.

Iron bed: Beds made of metal that are coated with colored finishes.

Italian finishing: Bed linen finishing technique created in Italy, where luxury single ply yarns are treated one by one to remove fibers to smoothen the surface.

Italian Renaissance: Famous through the 1400's to 1600's. Italian Renaissance furniture showing a rich look, and is decorated with carving, inlay, and marquetry work.

Interior design: The art of planning the layout and decoration of an interior space.

Intensity: The quality of being felt strongly.

Impact: The force of action of two objects coming in contact with each other.

Invoice: The list of services or goods.

Impression: An imitation of a thing.

Informal: A relaxed or unofficial style. (Not formal).

Image: Representation of the external form of a person or thing.

Idea: A Thought.

J

Justification: Showing that something is right or reasonable.

Jacquard: Intricate fabrics such as tapestries whose patterns are woven with colorful yarns.

Jute: A plant that is used in natural fiber flooring.

Jewelling: Decorative and ornamental carving in jewel shape

Japanning: European, and American technique of painting that needs many coats of heat-hardened lacquer.

K

Kelim: A flat-woven tapestry rug.

Kidney desk: A desk or table with a curved front and a top shaped resembling kidney bean.

Kiln dried: Wood that is dried by a means of controlled heat.

King mattress: A standard king sized mattress of size 78"x80".

Klismos: Ancient Greek design of chair with saber shaped legs at the front and back. The back legs continue up to support a shoulder-height curved back.

Kneehole desk: A desk with a dissolved central cupboard.

Knit: Upholstery fabric that is made from polyester or nylon.

Knot: The area of wood where a branch or the limb of a tree appears on the face or edge of a piece

L

Laminated: Sheets of mostly (ply wood) layered and bonded together for strength, thickness, and decorative effect.

Lancet: A narrow window with a sharp, pointed arch commonly associated with gothic architectural style.

Limited edition: Artworks that is produced in a deliberately limited quantity.

Linocut: Relief or raised print methods similar to woodcut.

Lintel: Horizontal supporting beam that spans the distance between an opening, mostly above a window or door.

Lithography: A printmaking process based on the repellence of oil and water and identified by soft lines and fuzzy shapes.

Lumber: Timber of logs dressed for use.

Luminaire: Complete lighting fixture with all components which is needed to be connected to the electric power supply.

Luster: A brilliant shimmering film used on a ceramic glazes.

Ladder-back: Country design chair with a back that resembles a ladder.

Leather: The hide of an animal used in home furnishings.

Library storage: Drawers, trays, cabinets or racks designed to store cassettes, CD's or video tapes.

Lifestyle: Describes an individual's expression of life.

Lining paper: Type of wallpaper used as a base for the decorative paper

Loft bed: A raised bed like a bunk bed with side drawers.

Log Furniture: Western and rustic style furniture made of actual wood logs.

Loop-back: An oval chair back without arms.

Louvered doors: Doors made up of horizontal wooden slats.

Loveseat: A smaller two-seat version of a sofa.

Lunette: An ornamental decoration in the shape of resembling half

moon.

M

Manchette: A small upholstered patch used on an armrest of a chair.

Mantel: The shelf above a fireplace.

Marbleizing (or Marbling): Decorative painting/finishing of a surface which looks like marble.

Marquetry: Decorative patterns and motifs made of inlays, normally applied to veneered surfaces.

Matte finish: A finish more flat than shiny.

Mattress: Piece of bedding consisting of multiple layers of foams and fibers.

MDF: Medium density fiberboard; made from compressed sheets of wood, used in the construction of furniture.

Mediterranean: This style originated in counties of the North Mediterranean Sea like Spain, Greece, and Italy.

Merino: The finest and best wool.

Modular: Furniture pieces that can be rearranged in different configurations to suit the space requirements.

Moiré: Fabric pattern that resembles water patterns on silk.

Molding: Ornamental shaped strips that are applied to a surface.

Monochrome: A single hue.

Mosaic tiles: Colorful natural stone tiles.

Mother of Pearl: Inlay of pearl shell slices, generally used in early 19th Century to décor furniture surfaces.

Motif: A decorative element that can be converted into patterns by repetition.

Mullion: The vertical wood used between window frames.

N

Nap: A fabric with a texture that runs on one direction.

Natural finish: Transparent finish that do not alter the original grain and color of the natural wood.

Neo-classic: Elegant and simple design style with motifs influenced from ancient Rome and Greece.

Nesting tables: Tables of different sizes stored under one another, normally consisting in a set of 3

Neutral color: Colors like white, black, and gray which easily mix with other colors.

Niche: A depression in a wall for displaying a sculpture or other decorative accessories.

Night stand: A small, low table with drawers that is placed by a bedside

Nylon: A synthetic yarn derived from polymers.

O

Occasional table: Term used for small pieces of furniture such as coffee and end tables.

Office chair: Any chair which is specifically designed to be used in an office environment.

Ogee: A decorative S-shaped molding.

Onlay: Ornamentation applied to the surface of wood or other materials.

Opaque: Any material that does not allow light to pass through it.

Open stock: Individual pieces from furniture collections that are sold separately.

Oriental rug: Hand-tied Oriental rug made in India, the Near East, or China.

Ormulu: Metal resembling gold and is used as decorative material

on furniture surfaces

Ottoman: A low upholstered footstool without arms and back.

Overlay: A decorative trim piece applied to a flat surface for décor

P

Palmette: Carved or painted ornament resembling a palm leaf.

Palladian window: A big window divided into three parts consisting of an arched center section part and two smaller side parts.

Panel: Thin flat piece of wood, framed by rails and stiles as in a door, for a decorative wall treatment.

Parquet: Wood flooring usually laid in blocks with boards at angles to each other to form decorative patterns.

Parquetry: Furniture inlaid with geometrical designs similar to parquet floors.

Parsons leg: A relatively long fully upholstered legs of a sofa chair.

Passementerie: Fancy decorative trimmings like tassels, tie backs, and ribbon.

Pastel: A light, soft color.

Patina: Sheen that develops with use over time, normally associated with fine antiques, vintage and leather furniture.

Patio furniture: Furniture specifically made and finished for outdoor use.

Pattern: The decorative or ornamental design of a fabric, veneers, etc.

Pattern repeat: The interval between the repetitions of the same pattern or motif.

Pedestal: The supporting base for a table.

Pediment: A decorative ornamental crest running across the top of tall piece such as curio cabinet, and grandfather clock.

Pelmet: A wooden or fabric edging used to hide the top edge of a curtain or blind.

Plinth: A square or rectangular base of column.

Portico: A covered entry structure supported by columns.

Proportion: Relationship between one part of an object and another part and to the whole, or between one element and another.

Pencil pleat: A narrow tight gathered drapery.

Pencil-post bed: Bed with four slender posts rising from six to eight feet in height.

Pendant: A hanging ornament.

Persian rug: A hand-tied Oriental rug made in Iran.

Pigment: A substance that gives color to paint.

Pinnacle: A carved ornament at the top of a piece of furniture.

Portieres: Hinged metal curtain poles from which a curtain is hung.

Primary colors: Three basic colors; red, yellow and blue.

Q

Queen Anne: The major furniture style in the period of the 1700's, which is known for being rich and innovative in design.

Quilt: A bed covering made of two layers of fabric and a layer of batting in between the two.

R

Rail: The horizontal piece running across the top of a dining room chair back mostly carved and decorative.

Ragging off: Paint effect achieved by rubbing/wiping painted surface with a rag

Recliner: A chair that reclines back.

Ready-made: Standard sized factory made draperies.

Récamier: An elegant sofa popularized in the Victorian eras of furniture design.

Regal: Traditional furniture style identified by majestic forms.

Regency: Neoclassical style of British furniture famous during the first half of the 1800's.

Relief: Ornamentation raised above its surface or background.

Renaissance Style: This furniture design movement started in Italy in the 13th Century and continued through the 17th Century with its ornamental style influenced by Michelangelo and Raphael.

Reproduction: New furniture that is a copy of an antique style or period.

Restorations: Antiques or collectibles that have been brought back to their original condition through reconstruction, refinishing.

Retro: View which displays some of the best furniture playful and ironic looks, from the 1930's to 1980's.

Roman shade: Fabric window shade that folds sideways.

Romanesque: Early medieval furniture with crude Roman character of arches, curves, and simple geometric arrangements of ornaments.

Romayne: Renaissance ornamentation that shows human heads on medallions.

Rosette: An ornament resembling a rose.

Russian style: Blending of styles from throughout Europe.

S

Sabot: A French term for bronze "shoe" used at the bottom of furniture legs.

Sateen: A cotton fabric which is made to look like satin with a smooth silky finish on one side.

Sawbuck table: A table with an X-shaped frame.

Scale: The size of an object and comparisons between a drawing size and the actual size of an object.

Sauvage: A two-toned color effect applied to leather furniture for creating different finishes according to the scheme of the room.

Scatter-back sofa: A sofa with loose back cushions.

Sconce: A tall narrow light fixture fixed on a wall, often made to hold a candle.

Scotchgard: Registered Trademark of the 3M Company for fabric protection from water spills.

Scroll: Scrolls are the supportive and decorative elements shaped like a curl which are connected to posts, rails.

Seat rail: The structure that supports the seat of a chair and holds the legs together.

Secondary color: Orange, green, and violet.

Sectional: Sofa curved or straight made in several parts.

Settee: A long seat with a back and arms originally popular in the 1600's.

Sandblasting: Technique of etching the surface of material by spraying it with compressed air and sand

Sepia: Warm, reddish-brown pigment produced from octopus or cuttlefish ink. Artist use this in drawing as ink.

Still life: A depiction of a group of objects composed for aesthetic effects

Structure: The overall character and appearance of an object.

Sham: Sham is a decorative cover that fully envelops the pillow.

Shield back: A chair with a back resembling a shield.

Shoji screen: A freestanding Oriental style screen, used for room divider.

Side chair: Referred to an armless dining chair or a small-scale.

Silk: A natural fiber made from the silk worm. Silk is known for being soft, smooth, and lustrous.

Sleigh bed: An American transformation of a popular French Empire design. Sleigh beds have a high scrolled headboard and footboard.

Sofa: A long upholstered seating piece.

Spinet desk: Writing desk that was designed using a musical instrument of the colonial period.

Spiral leg: Carved, or turned leg, into the shape of a twisted rope or spiral.

Suede: Leather which is made from a fresh split hide, and it has velvet like nap.

Symmetrical: Balance in design or decorating.

T

Table Lamp: A freestanding lamp generally placed in corners of the room

Taffeta: Woven fabric which is smooth on both sides.

Table ambulant: Portable occasional table which can be placed any where required. It is derived from French term.

Table runner: Decorative strip of fabric which is narrow and runs down the middle of a dining table.

Tailored upholstery: Furniture frame with fabric permanently attached.

Tapered leg: Furniture piece leg that becomes gradually smaller towards the bottom.

Tapestry: "Heavy" woven fabric showing decorative designs or pictures used for upholstery or wall hanging in an interior space.

Tea table: Portable small table, which is used in place of a coffee

table.

Teapoy: A piece of small freestanding furniture made for holding tea.

Tertiary color: Color created by blending two secondary colors.

Tester: A wooden frame at the top of poster bed for supporting canopy.

Tieback: Decorative fabric, cord, used to hold a drapery open.

Torchiere lamp: Floor lamp that throws light upward from a reflective bowl.

Traffic pattern: The direction in which people move in a room.

Transitional: Style of design that mix influences from various style categories.

Trim: Decorative elements like fringe on an accent pillow.

Tripod: Small table with a round top supported by a three-legged pillar, originally made for serving tea to guests.

Trunk: Rectangular container like open chest with a hinged top for holding clothes.

TV stand: Small cabinet used to place a TV.

U

Under-drapery: Lightweight, sheer drapery that hangs behind the heavier drapery.

Unfinished furniture: Furniture manufactured from wood that is not treated with any type of finish.

Uprights: The outer vertical pillars of a chair.

Urn: Vase shaped decorative ornament.

V

Valance: A horizontal characteristics used as a header for draperies, which can be made of fabric, wood.

Value: The lightness or darkness of a color.

Vanity: The countertop used to hold a sink in a bathroom.

Vase: Decorative container of urn.

Vegetable dye: colors that are extracted from the natural pigments of plants.

Velvet: Luxurious soft and thick pile fabric.

Veneer: Thin sheets of wood.

Venetian blind: A window covering consisting of a series of horizontal slats that can be turned or raised to control light.

Vitrine: Curio cabinet with a glass-front.

Voile: A sheer lightweight fabric used to make soft home textiles like sheets & pillows.

W-Z

Wabi-Sabi: Representing a Japanese style of observing art and beauty that infuse all things imperfect, impermanent, and incomplete.

Wainscot chair: An Elizabethan oak chair with a paneled back resembling wainscoting on a wall.

Wallpaper: A decorative material (mostly paper) used to cover the interior walls of homes, offices and other buildings.

Wardrobe: A cabinet with a door.

Wash stand: A cupboard with four legs with a basin sunk into the top.

Welsh cupboard: Cabinet with a large storage base and an upper area with open shelves.

Wicker furniture: Furniture woven from willow, reed, and rattan.

Windsor chair: Style of wooden chair originating in the early 1700's, it shows a spindle back shaped in fans, hoops or combs.

Wine rack: Rack for storing bottles of wine.

Wing Chair: High backed upholstered chair showing rolled arms and wing shaped protrusions that extend over the arms at the level of head.

Yorkshire chair: An oak chair showing turned front legs and stretchers.

Zenana: Furniture for the part of house in which women and girls were secluded in ancient Persia.

Zigzag: A molding with a series of frequent sharp turns from side to side.

Introduction to interior design profession

WE ALL SPEND MOST OF our time in interior spaces of either our homes, where we relax and commercial spaces, where we work or shop. We hardly notice the environment around ourselves which is filled with colors, textures and furniture and many other design elements that makes an ambiance of an interior space.

Interior design professional experts provide the owners of homes and various kinds of businesses with functionally practical and aesthetically beautiful interior spaces. An interior designer specialize in working with private residences or with commercial interior spaces like hotels, hospitals, retail stores, offices, and other private and public places.

In different ways the interior design experts benefits society by concentrating on how space and interior surroundings should look and function. Planning interior space layout and considering how the smart and proper design planning affects the health, safety, and welfare of residents, selecting furniture and accessories for the space, the designer brings the interior spaces to life, functional and aesthetic requirements by the client becomes reality.

The profession of interior design is much more than selection of colors, fabrics, and arrangement of furniture. The professional interior designer considers carefully building and life safety codes, consider environmental issues, and understand the basic construction and mechanical foundations and systems of buildings. Interior designer must effectively communicate design concepts through precision scaled drawings and other necessary documents used in the industry.

The professional interior designer plans a room's space and the furniture layouts, determines the location of partition walls placement, and selects colors, suitable and durable materials, and decorative accessories. The interior designer must also have the expert business skills to complete projects within budget and on

time.

The professional interior designer is well qualified by education, experience, and examination to boost the function and quality of interior spaces. For improving the quality of life, increasing productivity, and protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public, the professional interior designers are required to:

. Analyzes and understand the client's needs, goals and life safety requirements;

. Integrates and blends smartly findings with interior design knowledge;

. Develop concepts and presents final design recommendations through presentation;

. Makes working drawings, specifications for interior construction, materials, and finishes;

. Collaborates with licensed practitioners who offer professional services in the technical

Areas of mechanical, electrical design as required for regulatory approval;

. Prepares and executes bids and contract documents on client's behalf;

. Review and evaluates design solutions during execution and upon completion;

Professional interior designers and decorators have different domains of action, although the public generally does not see the difference between the two. Decoration no doubt is a valuable and important element of an interior space, ambiance creation, and is not completely concerned with human interaction or human behavior, whereas interior design is all about human behavior and human interaction or communication, in interior design the human interaction with space and the relationship which develops through the this interactions is an important aspect. Interior designers observe, study, and apply the science of space planning to establish comfortable environments for clients.

History of interior design profession

IN A WAY, IT CAN BE said that the work of contemporary interior designers dates from the earliest times, though it was not known as interior design until almost the mid-twentieth century.

The ancient Greeks were some of the first civilizations to display theatrical performances in designed spaces, they named as theaters. Monasteries arranged some of the earliest locations for healthcare facilities and were among the most important early school locations.

The hospitality industry dates back to many centuries, beginning with inns that sheltered travelers from far off places. During the Renaissance period, the nobility began collecting antiquities and displaying them, in their homes and laying thus the foundation of early museums. Homes have progressed from caves to a variety of residential spaces, as can be witnessed throughout the world today.

Before the twentieth century, interior decoration was the duty of architects and artisans, like Michelangelo, the Adam brothers, Antonio Gaudi, and William Morris.

These architects, painters, sculptors, along with other artisans were considered artists and craftsmen. People who designed and manufactured the fabrics, carpets, and furniture products were considered shopkeepers. The shopkeepers and shops did not cater interior decoration as a profession but, rather, they were more like suppliers.

Elsie de Wolfe (1865–1950) was among the first individuals who started the idea of professionalism in the art of interior decoration. It was almost during her career that the term interior decoration started to be used in relation to the work of individuals like her. She was born in New York City and was from elite class; de Wolfe started her professional career as interior decorator in 1904, when she was 39 years of age.

She was first commissioned, in 1905, for designing of the Colony

Club in New York City. Her use of white and pastels was a major change from the dark colors that were popular in the Victorian period. De Wolfe's clients were such notable figures as Henry C. Frick and Anne Pierpont Morgan.

Since early decorators mostly had wealthy clientele, the term society decorator was commonly associated with them. De Wolfe also wrote one of the earliest books about the subject of interior decoration named, The House in Good Taste (1913), in which she explained her philosophy about decoration for homes.

De Wolfe's success encouraged other women to enter the interior decoration profession. It was one of the few acceptable professions for women at the turn of the century. Formal training was difficult to get for them. Courses in interior decoration did not become available until 1904. The New York School of Applied and Fine Arts (now known as Parsons School of Design) in New York City was one of the first to offer interior design courses. Those who could not afford these courses would learn from magazines, such as House Beautiful or House and Garden that were available at that time.

After World War I, postwar wealth and economy growth became more widespread, allowing a considerable increase and interest in the employment of the interior decoration experts and professionals. Departmental stores with their displays of home furnishings flourished and became popular as women had more time now to shop.

Furniture manufacturing industries grew in places such as Grand Rapids, Michigan, and High Point, North Carolina. At the earlier stages most of these manufacturers produced inexpensive replicas of period furniture pieces that were popular in the United States at that time. By the 1920s, finer quality of furniture was being manufactured; on the parallel lines decorators were already traveling to Europe to buy antique pieces to suit their style and client's requirements.

The Art Deco style in 1920s had a significant impact on the interior design ambiance of both the houses and offices. Department stores like Macy's, Wanamaker's, and Marshall Field's constructed scenes to display the Art Deco style. Such kind of efforts popularized the Art Deco style in the United States. Art Deco also revolutionized the

interior and exterior design of office and commercial buildings. Mostly interior design in commercial buildings was done by men at that time.

Dorothy Draper (1889–1969) is given the credit for being the first specialized woman interior decorator in commercial interiors. During the same time, educational courses of interior decoration were emerging in New York and other cities in the United States.

In the late 1920s, many local Decorators' Clubs were being established in various parts of the country. Design education got popular as an increasing number of college courses and programs in interior decoration became available. The profession was becoming more formalized and started to change its image from that of the untrained decorator to that of the trained professional.

The economic depression of the 1930s effected furniture industry, much of it centered in Grand Rapids at the time. The Great Depression had a disastrous effect on the ability of the middle class to buy furniture products manufactured in the United States and Europe.

Many furniture manufacturing units were on the brink of closing. The leading society decorators remained unaffected by the depression, because their wealthy clients could still buy goods. Still most of these decorators were purchasing goods from Europe rather than using American-made goods in their interior decoration projects.

From the 1930s the Bauhaus school modernism movement had a great impact on the design of buildings and interiors in the United States. The industrialism of post-World War II also led to new manufacturing methods that altered and changed furniture and design styles. For example, molded plywood and molded fiberglass designs, like those by Charles Eames, revolutionized seating design. After World War II, commercial design became an increasingly significant aspect of the profession. Florence Knoll established the Knoll Planning Group in the 1940s. This design company focused on commercial interior design.

The emergence of giant corporations was one factor. Curtain wall construction, suspended ceilings, and changes in construction

allowed for wide, open interior spaces in office buildings all affected architecture and interior design and the role of the decorator and interior designer. In the 1940s and 1950s, more related educational opportunities meant that the decorators of the post-World War II era would have to depend on educational preparation rather than on just having “good taste” in order to obtain jobs and commissions in the market place.

The furniture and furnishings industry, related to the interior design profession, forced more changes in the profession. Trade shows, used to held at manufacturing centers like Grand Rapids, and later, at metropolitan market centers like the Merchandise Mart in Chicago, became a famous way for manufacturers to present and display their new products to decorators, designers, and other concerned trades people.

The philosophy change of the workplace design created new furniture concepts, like that of the office landscape. Office landscape concept was first introduced in Germany in the early 1950s by the Quick borner Team f¨ur Planung und Organization, commonly referred to as the Quick borner Team.

As practiced in Germany office landscape, created offices that were laid out without walls, utilizing plants, bookcases, and file cabinets as “screens” creating wide-open floor plans. As companies liked and adopted this planning philosophy, new experts and specialists in space planning, lighting design became part of the profession.

As interest in the interior design and decoration profession grew stronger, the numbers of programs in colleges, universities, and professional schools increased also, as did the number of faculty involved in relevant education. Since most of these educators considered teaching as their full-time occupation, many limited their practice of interior design.

The need of an organization to keep ahead of the profession as well as of advances in educational goals, in 1963 an organization by the name of Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) was formed. Today IDEC publishes the only scholarly journal of profession, the Journal of Interior Design Education and Research. Many professional associations, like the International Society of Interior Designers (ISID) and the Institute of Store Planners (ISP), were

established during the 1970s and 1980s.

Technology has also offered designers the opportunity to collaborate and use computer- aided design and drafting (CAD) into their professional practices. And Since the mid-1990s, the Internet has altered the way in which designers work, as fast communication via E-mail has facilitated the transfer of information data and graphics between designers and their clients on the World Wide Web (www).

Where all these challenges were having a dramatic affect on commercial interior designers, the ones who chose to work in residential design were also observing changes in their professional area. The changing composition of the family has required renewed considerations about how the family and its members use their home environment. Concepts like “green” environment have become significant in homes, as the various volatile odors and gases released by the increasing numbers of products that are being manufactured from hydrocarbons have affected and threatened the lives of residential clients. Different design styles, color trends and themes, new product range and development, and bigger interior spaces also have challenged the residential design concepts and philosophy.

At twenty-first century, one of the biggest challenges to the residential interior designer will be to find appropriate methods and skills to design and remodel homes for an aging population. With large numbers of baby boomers (those born between 1945 and 1964) fast approaching their “senior years,” homes and assisted-living facilities are needed to meet their changing lifestyles.

Today, the profession flourishes during one of the greatest economic booms in decade. Interior design professionals and students face continuing changes in the profession. As members work on projects while being confined by legal constraints, licensing issues, educational and qualification concerns, public opinion, and better business practice, the interior design profession will continue to grow and evolve with time.

INTERIOR DESIGN EDUCATION PREPARATION PLAN

THE FORMAL INTRODUCTION of educational preparation plan in interior design started in 1904 in Parsons School of Design with offering of interior design related specific programs. In the career of interior design informal education was only available through few courses that were offered in home economics or art, but architectural programs existed before the starting of the twentieth century and these offered very few classes in interior decoration.

Development of interior design academic programs continued in twentieth century throughout the country. Due to the varied interior design curriculum structure for many years the resulting designers were not prepared well for the profession. But after World War I, the efforts to make a standard code for education for interior design subject paid off resulting in an increase in well aware and expert decorators and therefore this industry blossomed. The basic foundation and roots of interior design academic education are in the fields of fine arts, home economics, and architecture. Interior design Courses at universities, colleges, community colleges, and professional schools generally allocate interior design academic programs within one of these three core domains. Programs range from two years to as long as four years. In many circumstances, students start at one of these two-year programs and later transfer into a four-year program in order to get a bachelor's degree. Graduates of four-year programs generally accept initial jobs and employment with larger sized interior design firms and architectural companies.

FIDER (Foundation for Interior Design Education Research) is a non- profit organization recognized by the Council of Higher Education Accreditation was established in 1970, is considered reliable authority on quality of postsecondary education of interior design in America.

The definition of common knowledge and skills that are needed by

competent professional interior designers must pass through the standards set by FIDER; these standards are carefully set to ensure the quality of the interior designers remains upto the mark to meet the challenges of market.

FIDER professional standards:

1. **Curriculum structure:** The curriculum structure is designed for the facilitation of advance level learning experience of students.
2. **Design fundamentals:** Ensuring that participants have the foundation in design, art, human behavior and history related disciplines.
3. **Interior design:** Participants fully understand and apply the knowledge of skills, processes, and theories concerning interior design.
4. **Communication:** Students have the ability to communicate their concepts and thoughts.
5. **Building systems and materials for interior:** Students understands the codes and systems of buildings and also possesses the right knowledge and understanding of using the appropriate materials in the construction or renovations.
6. **Regulations:** Students have the knowledge of codes, regulations, and laws concerning the safety and health of the occupants.
7. **Business and professional practice:** Students have a solid foundation of business and professional practice understanding.
8. **Faculty:** To ensure that the faculty and the other instructors are well qualified to teach the relevant course modules.
9. **Administration:** To ensure the administration of the program is well mentioned and supports it.
10. **Assessment:** Detailed and systematic method of assessment contributes to the long term program appreciability.

Every interior designer possesses individual unique qualities, but in common all of them should have the following abilities according to FIDER.

- The understanding the global basics of elements of design and the principals of composition;
- Understanding of the theories of design, color, and relationship between them and the spatial compositions;
- The problem solving design process on the basis of anthropometrics, ergonomics, and other human factor involvements;
- Understanding of space planning, furniture layout planning and styles for various financial categories of people;
- Knowledge of building materials, textures, textiles and lightings for aesthetically balanced build environment spaces;
- Understanding of technical factors involved from materials to soft furnishing;
- Knowledge of building laws and regulations and safety standards.
- Strong communication skills, written, oral and visual design presentation skills
- Understanding of interior design business history, methods, and ethics
- Knowledge of research and data analysis in order to develop design concepts.

These are the set guide line basics for professional interior design practices.

ESTABLISHING INTERIOR DESIGN PRACTICE

THE ENTREPRENEUR

An entrepreneur is the one who starts and manages his or her own business. An entrepreneur can work alone or hire employees if he or she wishes. Entrepreneurs creatively plan and handle the business they think they will have success in. They generally come up with ideas to sell a service or a product in a manner that is unique and different to their conventional competitors.

The driving energy behind the entrepreneurs is the passion towards the achievement of their set goals; they put in lot of their time and energies smartly not to only earn them financial rewards but also opening doors of employment for the other people.

The various design discipline practice owners have one common characteristic that is the technical knowledge and expertise acquired through education and other is the experience gained through professional practice in the market.

Most of the designers render their services to a reputed design firms and gain experience and understand to manage and handle professional business pressures. The other lot of designers enjoys establishing a business of their own, though it is fun to enjoy at the seat of the boss or as the owner of the company, but at the same time it is a difficult task as they are required to put in a lot of hard work as well.

Every business has its advantages and disadvantages both of which are to be considered in the brainstorming phase of actually building a business company of one's own. Some of the advantage a business owner enjoys is:

. Liberty to make own decisions

. The Feeling of satisfaction on goal and target achievement

. Opportunity to enjoy and do the design work of your choice

. Potential to earn higher income and profits as your company does well

. Job security as long as the business sustains

. Freedom of working in your own design style

. Development of direct contacts with clients and different vendors

The fruits of hard work and focused efforts of entrepreneurs come with all the advantages as mentioned above, the satisfying feeling of making decisions and seeing them turn out as planned is an immense pleasure. But not to forget a business at the same time is a risk and tricky activity to manage, some of the disadvantages of business are:

. Chances of big financial risks of both business and personal assts

. Legal liabilities, one gets responsible of his or her own actions and decisions along with

Their employees as well

. As a boss one has to put in extra efforts and work for long hours to achieve goals

. More stressed life as one has to fulfill all the financial requirements of the company

. Paying attention more to the management of company than working as designer

. Has to satisfy the client requirements and the client himself, which is at time difficult.

The purpose of bringing the disadvantages is not to make someone discourage but merely because life is difficult as a professional and above all while designing the idea of developing a business and become an entrepreneur one must be aware of all the aspects of business.

Beginning a new design practice

The decision of laying the brick of a new design practice must involve careful planning starting with the seriousness of personal motivation level and then considering the financial, legal risk factors. Many interior designers often jump into the design practice without carefully thinking about all the little details and delicacies required for the foundations of a new business.

The most vital phase before you even start planning the layouts of your interior design practice is to be very sure about your motivation, as many interior designers start from a home based business and lose concentration because of the family routine works distracts their attention.

Focused motivations and right kind of attitude are just only one part of evaluation of a new potential practice required in the process of starting a business plan strategy. The second very important consideration is the financial risk, which at times extends to thousands of dollars depending upon the business plan. Any new business takes time to establish and eventually start paying the profits so careful business planning must evaluate all the financial involvements.

It is highly recommended that the entrepreneurs must set aside one year's living expenses before beginning a small level business as it may take a longer period of time for a business to be able to pay an entrepreneur a salary. Now once the entrepreneur has evaluated his motivations and the financial risks involved, the next stage to follow is to define the business.

The important challenge now is to clearly define the purpose of the business and way it is different from the other counterparts in providing either services or the physical product. To make sure you understand clear goals of your business you must build a strong to the point mission statement.

A mission statement is a statement that provides the concise explanation and nature of business direction. Generally a mission statement consists of the description of your business, the description of your clients and the services or products the company deals in. Mission statement can be two or three sentences providing the relative information.

Defining business will clearly help the entrepreneur with the decisions of marketing, operational working and management, and the hiring of employees. Further the clarity of mission statement and proper definition of business will make it easier to make criteria of selection of right kind of employees and also the financial planning and techniques to uniquely market the services or products.

The business plan

BUSINESS PLAN IS A written document that ensures that every detail is well taken care off before starting a business company. Interior design firms that intend to sell related products may need investment that he or she could acquire from bank or use his or her own expenses. But for an interior design company that intends to sell services may need to generate fewer funds to start business. A well planned business plan addresses successfully to both the scenarios.

Many books already have been written on the topic of business plan, in reality a business plan should be the personal expression of an entrepreneur, how he or she feels about making all the possible points that will help the business to grow, but one thing should be kept in mind that no business plan is a guarantee that a business will be successful rather a plan only limit the risk to minimum by attending to all the possible hazards that may arrive during the course of execution.

Research for business plan

AN ESSENTIAL FACTOR of all types of business plans is research. A thorough time of research should be spent before the business plan is written. It is important to complete research in different areas from skill requirements, market place, operational and management to pricing and financial planning.

To conduct a successful research the step to follow may include;

.Understanding and analyzing the personal abilities and interests of being an owner of interior design business

. To carefully consider the business purpose, its mission and the target audience

. To develop a secure financial plan of income to meet the expenses of all kinds as the business will be in its initial stages and not likely to generate the expense amount

. To make a plan of the abilities required in an employee

. Conduct a thorough business marketing plan to address to potential target audience

. Determine if the business plan is based on solo ownership or partnership

. Thorough research on legal documentation and tax obligations

. Carefully calculate how much capital will be required in the first year of business establishment phase

. Develop a detail financial plan, income projections, balance sheets, and cash flow predictions

. Develop a researched based organizational plan from employee needs to purchase procedures

An important consideration for an entrepreneur during the research and developing of the business plan is to figure out the financial

needs and revenue expectations of the business. Without considering the location of the business whether planned at home or at any commercial location, an interior design business will always have similar financial needs at its commencement. One kind of start-up expenses are those which are just one-time expenses, including like buying of equipment and furniture for the office, utility deposits, legal fees, start-up promotional items like advertising, and sellable inventory. Other start-up expenses are the ongoing expenses, like stationery, office supplies, telephone and fax charges, internet, and promotional activities. A third group of expenses are those that are ongoing yet are not necessarily required at the initial stages of business.

Preparing in writing the business plan

ONCE THE RESEARCH HAS been done, the actual writing of the business plan can start. In most cases, an overview of the company should come first, with the financial material, second. The following can be a business plan suggestion.

. **Business summary** (Business owner, business director names, business location, legal structure, description of business offered services)

. **Market research** (Description of the need of services offered in the community, evaluation of potential clients, description of the competition, evaluation of existing sales of similar services in the community, and any trends that can affect the projected business outcomes)

. **Market plan** (Detail description of the portion of the market the business will cater, what services the business will offer to the potential clients, determine the price range of the product or the services, and detailed plan of advertising, social media campaigns that can support the business in the target audience)

. **Operational plan** (Detail out the organizational structure of the business, description of the persons and their job hiring, details about how and who will handle the business records, project dealing with vendors and purchase handling plan)

. **Financial information** (Required initial capital for the project and first-year estimates for business operating smoothly, Estimate monthly additional revenue beyond break-even points, preparation of month-by-month, projected profit-and-loss statements, decision on used accounting practices related to depreciation, leasing, and inventories, and explain details of how projections were made)

Always keep in mind that beginning of business requires serious thought and time, otherwise failure may result. A concrete and thoughtful business plan is the key to limiting the failure chances, therefore a reasonable amount of time and energy should be spend

by an entrepreneur on the business plan.

Summary

To start an interior design practice or business and having the required skills or experience in interior design are not enough. It is important also to define clear goals and policies of the proposed business practice as well as to analyze and evaluate the abilities of all the individuals who may be involved in that business. Through research and analysis, the best possible decisions about the Key specifications, direction, and future prospects of the business can be made. If the entrepreneur is not able to put in the effort needed to develop or create a well-thought-out business plan, he or she may not be ready yet to own or operate a business practice. The business plan certainly is the most important part of “design” work that the owner/manager does in his or her career life.

Interior design vs. interior decoration

Interior design and interior decorating get mostly mistaken and mixed up for being the same thing. There are many similarities between the natures of the two. In fact so many that opinions differ on where to draw the distinction line. But there are more than a few variations between what makes an interior designer and an interior decorator, so here is a brief comparison of the two that can help you understand the distinction for yourself.

What is an interior designer?

Interior design is a profession that demands specific schooling and formal training. The work usually includes studying color and fabric, computer-aided design (CAD) training, drawing, space planning, furniture design, architecture, history of arts and culture, lighting design, etc. After completing graduating designers often work with a registered and established interior designer before creating their own companies.

What interior designers do?

Interior designers generally work closely with architects and contractors to help achieve the look the client visualizes, the project can be the designing of a residential home, an office, a hotel, or any other interior space.

What is an interior decorator?

Interior decorators do not need to have formal training or schooling because decorators focus primarily on aesthetics of a space. Decorators do not generally take part in renovations or structural planning. They come in after renovation or planning part and only focus on the surface look of the space.

What interior decorators do?

Decorators are great for coming into a room and making it into shape. They can help clients decide on a decorative style, choose a color scheme, buy furniture in a particular style, and choose accessories to finally make the space come to life.

Who do interior decorators work with?

Decorators do not generally work with any contractors or architects since they are hired once the planning and structural work is completed. Instead they work with furniture makers, upholsterers, and other industry professionals.

Careers

Career Options for interior designers: Residential Interior Designer, Commercial interior designer,

There are various ways to work in the field of interior design and also different ways one can find the right path that will match with his or her talents and interests.

Commercial interior design has become increasingly important over the last 40 or 50 years. The design of public buildings, like hotels, restaurants, medical offices, and offices of every kind, has become recognized and popular as another career path in the profession of interior design.

In commercial interior design, space planning, creating layout furniture plans, and specifying and selecting furniture products and materials always is very important just like the traditional style of residential interior practice. Variety of career options that is open to an interior designer stretch far beyond designing residential or commercial interiors.

The new employee has the opportunity to work on a wide range of projects and learn variety of experiences in a small firm. Smaller firms require people to contribute, so the expectations will be high for a new employee to assist the more experienced designers. In a larger firm, it is not unusual for the young designer to progress slightly slowly through responsibility levels.

Interests in particular type of design work surely influence career options. Outside interests and experiences from a previous career can move you toward a particular specialty. Understanding your expertise and what your interests are will help you make the decision as to which area to excel into in interior design.

Common employment options for interior designer include the following:

Residential interior design

Commercial interior design

Residential retail furniture store

Office furnishing dealer

Architectural office

Independent design firm

Furniture and interior fit out manufacturer

Industrial and corporate interior designer

Facility planner

Teacher / instructor

Alternative career options

CAD specialist

Professional renderers

Model makers

Sales representatives

Contract consultant specialists

Architectural and interior design photographers

Product designers

Tapestry and soft furnishing consultant

Specification writers and site analysis specialist

Project manager

Interior design business plan consultant

Contract execution supervisor

Quality controller

Installation supervisor

Marketing specialist

Merchandizing and exhibition design

Interior design journalist

Summary

ONE OF THE INTERESTING sides of the interior design profession is different ways in which an individual can work in the field. Some areas demand training and experience after the undergraduate level or the normal interior design degree, many offer positions that the trained interior designer can achieve with work experience in that field.

PART 02

DESIGN CONCEPTS AND RULES

INTRODUCTION

Do design excite, thrill, and attract you? Do you want to decorate your home yourself and learn how interior designer develop concepts? Then this book will help you and guide you to understand how an interior design project is handled and what project requirements should be considered like professionals.

This book will guide you through all the steps you need to know about starting the renovation of your home all by yourself. Just imagine how amazing feeling it would be to decorate your house the way you have visualized. Read this guide and get the detailed insight into the professional world of decoration and interior design.

So what is it that you need to know at the first step before jumping into this guide?

Everything starts with the level of interest you have for that particular activity, in other words one need to have **passion** to perform and excel further into whatever he or she likes, in your case surely, it is all about decorating your house and practicing interior design.

Creative ability and its realization is the second thing one needs to explore and develop. To masterfully take out that creative flair through different design applications and tools into the products or the surrounding enviornments is needed.

A very good knowledge and understanding of **design** and **furniture history** would be beneficial to implement the visualized ideas for your home renovations and interior design. Reading the related books on basics of design and furniture history becomes a must to climb the ladders of success. Knowing the furniture history and furniture styles makes it possible for you to choose from a vast

variety of styles used in different periods of history. It is always a good idea to have large and diversified reference portfolios to look and choose your pieces from.

Visual aesthetics plays an important role in the field of interior design and decoration. From choosing the color schemes, textures, textiles, wall coverings, and furniture styles to proportionate space planning are some of the ingredients of visually aesthetic design.

Drawing skills, the ability to visualize, and think in three **dimensional spaces** are also a skill to be learned and developed through practice. Learning of drawing is very important as it makes it easier for contractors and builders to understand what exactly you want them to make.

And most importantly what are the steps in a sequence that must be followed in order to successfully complete your goals of home decoration, renovation, and interior design. From the first step of concept building, to the last step of masterfully executing your ideas.

This book will step by step lead you to understanding interior design and interior decoration, so that you are well prepared to decorate your house in a better way.

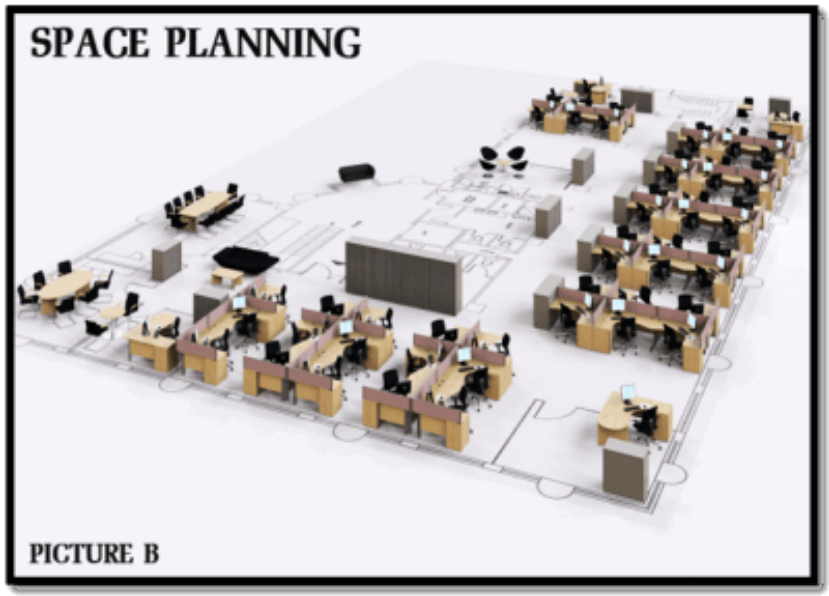
Defining interior decoration and interior design:

Interior decoration is generally referred to as furnishing and decorating an interior space. Decoration actually is done to enhance the beauty of a space by adding design elements to it from paint to furniture, from wall art to area rugs and carpets, from decorative objects to soft furnishing. Whereas interior design is related to making changes to a certain space like adding artificial walls or columns in a space or moving the walls of a particular space to make it work more efficiently and purposefully. Working with interior space detailing also falls in interior design category.

When decorating a home it becomes very important to pay close attention to little details. No doubt, the other elements like the color themes and furniture pieces are also important but it is the little details that make the difference between an attractive, enjoyable home and a beautiful but boring one.

Picture A

Picture A is a good example of a good interior decoration. The whole room is well managed decoration wise by using balanced color scheme and mood. One can observe the detailing in the space from wall claddings to soft furnishing like curtains, from artificial columns to the lighting, from choosing the furniture pieces to decorative objects, every detail in this particular space is handled masterfully.



Picture B

Picture B is a good example of planning a space according to the requirement and nature of work. Designing custom made furniture and other fixtures can help create productive and efficient interior spaces

HOW TO TAKE A START

INTERIOR DECORATION of homes to make them look amazing and beautiful is probably one of the oldest of all art form. Home interior decoration is practiced based on the simple formula of beauty plus the utility of the room space as per the requirement of the family member.

For successful home decoration you only have to apply the formula of beauty plus the utility according to your room decoration budget, it is that simple. It becomes not only challenging to do so but also interesting and rewarding. Today designers, decorators, and manufactures have combined to explore and open an exciting new world of styles and interior while at the same time utilizing the best of old techniques and styles.

It is not required to dig deep in historical backgrounds to understand the period styles and details of architectural interior to innovate ideas for the decoration of your home. The most important requirement to decorate well is to first understand what do you want? Once you are clear on this point than all you have to do is be aware of the latest development and follow the basic rules. The essence of the contemporary style is to blend the old tested features from the past with the modern innovations by the designers. Understanding even a half of the design principals will enable you to work out the arrangements and combinations that will decorate your space no matter what size and type room you are planning.

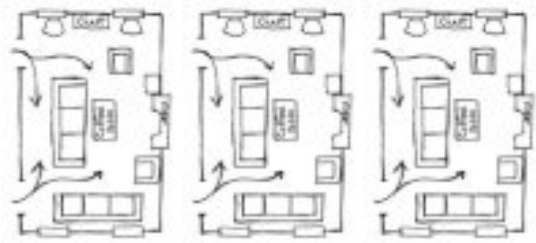
THE ART OF DECORATING MADE EASY

A CAREFUL ANALYSIS of what you want to do? And how you want to do it? And above all what you and your family like and dislikes will make the decorating of rooms or the whole house simplified. List everything that is relevant to these key points for clear concept development. Experiment and never be afraid to do it, you will learn from your mistakes and who knows a mistake can prove to be an interesting design feature or an element of design in an ambiance, there are many tricks to be learned and experimenting is the only way to be creative. Adopt that approach it will be also good for a boost in the confidence level.

It will be very helpful if you could visualize each room in your home as a stage which you can decorate and furnish to provide comfort, ambiance, pleasant and beautiful setting for the people who will use it. Most universal of all decorating problems is how to break the monotony or same look of a space. To make every room more interesting and unique you must have to break the feeling of sameness.

It becomes challenging when you have to break the likeness of a space, there are of course many way you can do it. The picture above gives a same kind of look due to the use of similar white paint. Giving a mood to space through color and many other design elements is primary focus while decorating spaces.

USEFULNESS OF DECORATING PLANS



YOU are not required to produce draftsman like drawings or the sketches that professional decorators make of the room, but one can learn and take advantage of that approach. Before you commence with your visualizations it is always a very good idea to make a rough sketchy outline of what you want to do in a room, putting in more details will eventually make your vision more clear. It is therefore not a bad idea to formulate a plan based on your intensions of handling a space.

The first point to consider in a working plan is very functional, and that is what the room is to be used for? The answer to question is easy as the purpose of every room is pre defined by the builder or an architect. Every room in the house should be decorated according to its use and personality. The purpose or the activities to be performed in a particular room will make it easier for you to decorate it and give it a character you have imagined.

The picture here shows the pre defined purpose of the room, which is children bed room. Knowing the purpose of the room makes it easier for the decorator to give this room the required character and mood.

Notice here the decorator plays with one dominating yellow color and smartly adds bright color. Children normally get attracted to bright colors and enjoy fun.

Decorators make a plan according to their visualization and by doing so rule out the possibilities of making disastrous mistakes. So decorating plan makes it possible to build a concept around a theme. Decoration plan also clears up interior decorators mind about choosing the right materials, fixtures, and accessories.

The importance of decoration plan becomes even more valuable when you make a check list of points to be taken care of like, the liking of the children with reference to any specific color they like or the kind of furniture that would suite their age and comfort, where and how to install light fixtures, the kind of soft furnishing to be used from curtain drapes to upholstery fabric, considering all the safety factors from electric switches to sharp edges.

Once everything is addressed in a checklist to ensure all the comfort and needs of a space, the probability of you succeeding in decorating it skillfully rises. Once you become decoration sensible you will discover helpful ideas at every phase. You can also start by making a scrapbook in which you can collect magazine articles on decoration trends, advertisement of new furniture and fixtures, different pictures of furniture and accessories arrangement and also pictures of color schemes that attract you. You can also make notes of interesting things that you see while visiting your friends and shopping malls. Many ideas can be photographed to take references from while you are decorating your home interior spaces.

ROOM DECORATION PLAN BASIC CHECKLIST

WHEN YOU START TO MAKE a rough drawing plan of any room keep these basic things in mind:

1. Size of the room (considering the number of people who will use the room, flow of movement in that space)
2. Purpose of the room (living room, bed room, lounge etc.)
3. Placement of furniture. (Orientation and grouping of furniture facing each other)
4. Sizes of furniture according to the space available
5. Location of the windows, doors, electric points
6. Color schemes and consider what type of theme to follow
7. Ceiling plan ideas (considering the height of the ceiling)
8. Wall treatment ideas (For example: wall cladding, wallpaper, fabric paneling, wall paint applications)
9. Floor treatment ideas
10. Fabric textures, patterns and usage
11. Decorative items placement

It will be a great idea to consider the general architecture style of the building and creating harmony between the architectural style and the interior room decoration style.

TRYING OUT SAMPLING

WHEN YOU HAVE VISUALIZED the concept about how you want to decorate a particular room, you draw the rough sketch to visually judge your space with reference to furniture layout to rest of everything mentioned in the checklist you have made. Now is the time to collect samples or reference pictures of everything to make a mood board. Doing so will help you as you will be sure of each and every finish and paint to fabric textures and their combination.

Collect every possible picture of furniture, paintings, table lamps, area rugs, carpets, lights that match your visualization. The possibilities of making mistakes will be reduced by doing this exercise. Make sure to show patience at this very crucial stage of your interior decoration project. Hurrying with things can make you overlook wrong selection of products and things, interior decorators are very clear in their head about their every move in selection of even smallest decorative product.

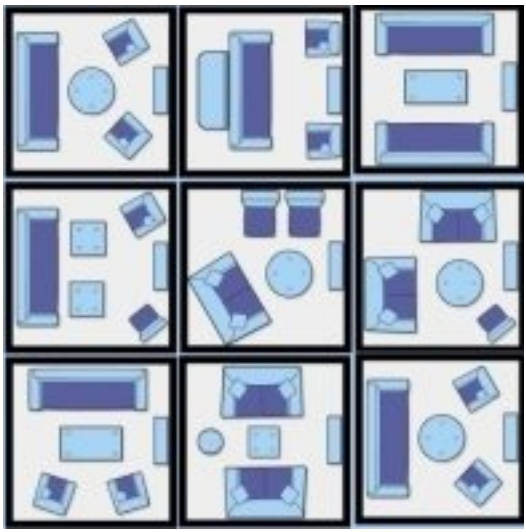
Never make a guess how textures, colors, design and weaves go with each other, put them side by side to make sure they make a good combination. Every selected item should be in harmony and complement one another aesthetically. While making your selection also keep in mind the climate you live in. The combination of color scheme, theme, and selection of fabrics should be taken care of depending on the climate.

Trying out the combination of different samples will also let you access so many other issues that might arise later if detailed thinking is not done at the stage of sampling, for example choosing something that might later on has a cleaning easily issues, it is therefore required from your side to be sensible and patience in selection.

SAMPLING FOR DECORATION

INTERIOR SAMPLE BOARD

HOW TO MAKE FURNITURE ARRANGEMENTS



INTRODUCTION

A pleasant blending of aesthetics, beauty, comfort, and convenience is the primary goal of all home decorators and interior designers. To make sure all these features are achieved well a planned furniture arrangement is required. Selection of furniture and its placement in groups or in relation to one another and the space will create a mood and the required ambiance. The functionality, purpose of the room and flow of traffic in the rooms cannot be overlooked.

LEARN THE DECORATIVE KNOWLEDGE

Worldwide decorating standards are based on few general principals of design that artists, designers, and decorators call “compositions”. This phenomenon is not difficult to understand in relation to placing furniture along with other decorative objects in a room. Familiarity with just few of the decorator’s rules of execution of design will give you confidence. This knowledge will help you to recognize and admire good ideas you see but also smartly adopt

those ideas into your projects with a slight twist.

In your project using this method of adoption of ideas that fascinates and attracts you will come with observation and experience. Recording all such ideas into your reference library will come handy during the decoration planning stage where you make rough sketches exploring creative ideas and compositions.

MOOD IS IMPORTANT IN ROOM DECORATION

The first step to consider in planning is to determine what kind of mood you want to portray or present. Everyone knows what a mood is and what effects can it leave. When people speak of the atmosphere of the room, its tone, and its feeling mostly they mean the “mood”. Moods are usually expressed or represented through choice of furnishings and decorations, moods usually through design elements give the ambiance of cheerfulness or sadness, softness and romantic. A little knowledge of how to use color, texture, and arrangement of furniture like factors will enable you to create moods you like for any room.

You will explore that there are many shades of mood to choose from as there are different types of dispositions. Color is the decorator’s weapon; it solves almost every type of problem, in building or changing the mood of the room it is particularly useful. Scientifically it is proven that colors around you affect you in a certain manner, both mentally and physically. You can bring different kind of feelings and moods through the application of color.

COLOR MOOD

CREATING YOUR PLAN AROUD A THEME

IN DECORATING THEME is referred as any particular idea used or practiced as an element of unity in a room by tying together different elements of decoration, and this creates harmony. The advantage of creating and following a theme is that it suggests interesting details and color combinations which makes decorating selections easier.

Inspirations for any particular theme can be found anywhere; inspirations usually make you follow a definite style of decorating the room according to the taste of its occupants. If you are attracted to a particular theme, for example: Georgian, Victorian, English or oriental decoration following them with a contemporary twist. This will simplify your problems. Tradition can help by presenting many decorating examples by suggesting many historical and regional themes that you can follow. The theme you choose may run through number of rooms to give the impression of unity to the entire home. The suggested theme that runs through different rooms of the house may have similar looking furniture style, wall treatments, floor treatments, ceiling treatments and selection of other decorative accessories from paintings to table lamps, from floor rugs to decorative accent furniture pieces.

VICTORIAN decorative art refers to the decorative arts style that was in trend and followed during Victorian Period Victorian refers to the reign of Queen Victoria (1837–1901). The great Victorian period is well known for its interpretation of historical styles of Middle Eastern and Asian influences in furniture, accessories, fittings, and decoration.

Interior decoration in the Victorian period is known for its ornamentation and systematic arrangement of furniture and the design elements. Public and private interior spaces in this era were carefully separated. A bare or an empty room was considered to be of bad taste, therefore every surface of the room used to be filled with decorative objects of different sorts. The choice of paint on the walls in Victorian Period homes was said to be based on the use of the particular room.

The concept of giving “harmony “ to rooms was to use the colors that lay next to each other on the color wheel chart.

There was no dominant style of furniture in the Victorian era. The Gothic and Rococo periods revival styles were the most common styles to be seen in furniture during this time in history. Wallpaper and wall coverings became available for a numbers of householders

with their wide range of design patterns and varying costs. This was due to the introduction of mass production techniques. Wallpaper most of the times were made in detailed floral patterns with primary colors (red, blue, and yellow) in the backgrounds and overprinted with colors.

ROCOCO or "Late Baroque" is an early to late French period 18th-century artistic movement and style, it influenced many aspects of the arts including painting, sculpture, architecture, interior design, and decoration.

Rococo artists and architects used a more florid, and delicate approach to the Baroque style. Their style was ornate and used lighter colors, asymmetrical designs, curves, and use of gold. Rococo had playful and witty themes. The interior decoration of Rococo rooms was designed as a total work of art with decorative ornate furniture, small sculptures, fancy mirrors, and tapestry complementing architecture, and wall paintings. Rococo usually covers the kind of ornament, style, and design associated with Louis XV's reign

MAKING FLOOR PLANS

BEFORE YOU TRY TO PLOT your floor spaces make sure that you have a list of every possible activity that will be carried out in that room. You should have beforehand notes of every detail from furniture to all the equipment that is needed.

You list of furniture should have all the existing furniture pieces that you have and all that you intend to buy. Take the measurements or the dimensions of the room, note down carefully every detail like the location and widths of the door and the windows, also any other feature that is present in the room like fireplace or a built in niche.

Now you are ready to work like professional interior decorators, and that is to work out your floor plan on paper. First step is to draw outline of the room marking the positions of the fixed features. Doing so will make you see better where exactly your wall spaces are in relation to doors, windows or any other fixed features and also how you can arrange in groups your furniture pieces.

This way you can visualize arrangements of furniture much easier. Just keep sketching the compositions of furniture in different styles and groups. Make sure you consider the distances between the furniture pieces and any other special design feature that you intend. Try to keep aesthetics and balance in your compositions.

FOCUS OF INTEREST

A feeling of warmth and friendliness in your living room can be achieved partially by arranging the furniture in small close and intimate groups which suggest friendly conversations. The most important group will definitely be placed near the best feature in the room. Fireplace is a good example of the center of interest feature in the living room and placing two heavy back wing chairs on both sides of the fireplace with accent tables and an area rug in front of the fireplace can become a great center of interest feature. You can hang a painting on wall above the fireplace.

Naturally the large furniture pieces must receive the first consideration when planning to make sure you make best use of your floor and wall spaces. Once you have decided upon the main center of focus area, you can start making other furniture arrangements with reference to the primary focused furniture layout, in this case the fireplace arrangement.

With each of the furniture group layout there must be chairs, occasional tables, and decorative items like lamps without disturbing the discomfort levels. You can build up interest in the living room by adding wall treatments like decorative wood panels, wallpapers, and paintings.

BALANCE

In each stage of decorating balance is very important and easy to achieve, a well balanced room with ordinary furniture may look great in comparison to the one with expensive furniture pieces but poorly balanced spaces and furniture layout arrangements. The psychological value of balance in decoration is just achieving the sense of restfulness; balance is order and creates a definite feeling of comfort. The grouping of objects is in balance when they appear to be at rest, which means when heavy furniture pieces are placed in an order and that are not at one side of the room.

Similarly all the objects that are tall in height should also be placed in a manner that is balanced and not on one side. Arranging the furniture and all the other decorative objects in a balanced was will make the room look aesthetically well arranged, comfortable, and balanced.

In an ideally decorated room each wall should have an object of central interest, with other furniture pieces and supporting accessories grouped together to create pleasant and appealing composition and each opposite wall would provide a balance to one another.

The difference between two types of balance – identical (for formal), and not identical but aesthetically composed for informal. The art of traditional decorating in the Western World has always relayed upon the identical balance style of composition as it is easier to work with by making stable, elegant and restfulness in the room.

Formal Balance: You must be wise to make decisions and visualizations as making too much balance will make your room look boring and monotonous. Every room in your house has both vertical and horizontal lines in its decoration you should use these lines as references you create different type of compositions.

Optical Balance: This type of balance is really an optical delusion. It is an arrangement of objects which are similar but not identical in a way that they create or build an impression of symmetry and also balance within a group arrangement or in relation to other group of arrangement facing them. Optical balance is more difficult to handle as compare to identical balance but at the same time it is more challenging and interesting as there are many possibilities of arranging furniture and supportive accessories in an interior composition.

USING BALANCE IN A MODERN WAY

ORIENTAL DECORATION makes vast use of this difficult balance style. The modern school feels that it gives broad range to the imagination of an individual upon the traditional habits of buying furniture and accessories in pairs just for the sake of creating identical balance in interior room decoration, whereas optical balance carry their own explanation and that is “informal balance” style goes naturally with the more flowing lines of this particular arrangement.

Optical balance is affected by the color and texture and this point must not be forgotten when you are assembling and arranging you layout groups. Usually dark colors and rough finishes give a heavier look to your furniture pieces than they actually are, whereas light colors and smooth surfaces give them look larger. Neutral colors will mostly balance a much

Smaller spot of bright and powerful color, similarly a wide expanse of dull surface may balance a much smaller bright area.

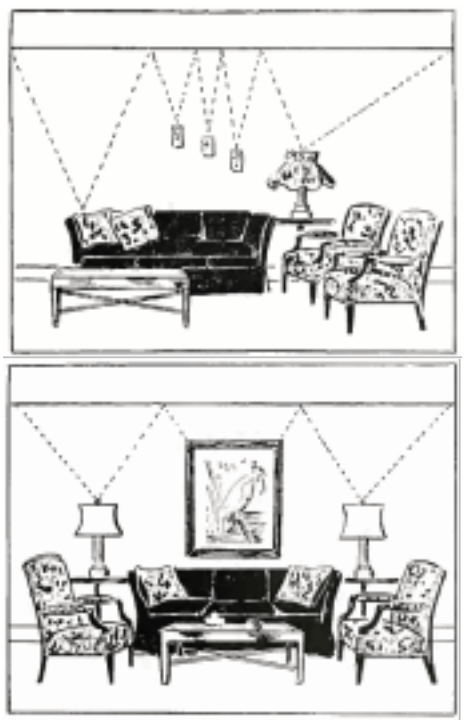
HOW TO USE LINE

MOST WOMEN HAVE ALREADY found the power of line in relation to their attire. You know that up and down pleats and trimmings make you look taller, strips running around will make you look shorter and broader. You can apply the same principal in dressing and decorating of your room, it will have the same effect. Slight knowledge of lines and their effect can be a very useful tool in decorating your rooms.

Lines appear to stand out clearly in a room in details like doors and window trims, stripes in decoration, edges of furniture. If you know about your lines and what they mean, you will be able to select furnishings which complement each other and well with background of your room, this way you will avoid monotony in the room and many more mistakes.

TYPES OF LINE

THERE ARE TWO BASIC types of lines straight, and curved, but at the same time many interesting possibilities may arise with the combination of these two types of lines. A successfully decorated room has a pleasing combination of straight and curved lines both in the background and in furnishings.



Picture A: Wrong combination of lines Picture B: Right combination of lines

The most attractive combination of lines to give a certain mood to the decoration depends upon what you like and what kind of mood you want for that particular room.

THE MEANING OF LINES: CHECKLIST

Vertical lines in furniture, wall decoration, and hanging of the objects make the room to look narrow and taller; these lines give

the feeling of stiffness, elegant, and formal.

Horizontal lines are mostly associated with long and low objects such as dining tables, couches, and beds and for their association with low objects these types of lines suggest comfort and relaxation. Horizontal lines give space a formal feeling.

Straight lines running side by side to one another suggest peacefulness and harmony.

Straight lines in combination with horizontal and vertical are essential and they exist in an environment. Once these lines are properly balanced skillfully they give a room feeling of closeness and permanence.

Rectangles compositions are more interesting than the square ones as the lines in rectangle makes the eye flow with the lines.

If you are not sure yourself about the meaning and working of lines, how they are used in decoration than Start to educate your eye to recognize various type of lines in any room. Try to study how other interior decorators have cleverly combined different types of lines in a room to create certain effect or ambiance.

ARRANGEMENT AND PLACEMENT OF FURNITURE GROUP

EVERY CENTER OF INTEREST group, even each grouping of small decorative objects should be a complete picture in itself and also in harmony with the rest of the room, and present a single picture as whole. It is easy to do, balance one side of the group against the other; all you have to make sure is that no other decorative object violates the scale in volume or height.

Make sure to unify them with each other through a theme, color, and texture. The furniture grouping will give more pleasing effect if a little of the same color appears in all the pieces and texture are not too different in their appearance and character.

Always remember while planning and making you floor plans that dark and dull looking surface group of items will be partly lost in a shadowy corner, similarly light group of items may be too obvious in full light from the window. So you should lighten up the dark corner by adding lighter values of color and smooth surfaces. Dark color furniture and decorative objects will stand out clearly against dark color walls and backgrounds, so they should not be arranged against white walls or lighter colors.

TYING PORTIONS OF THE ROOM TOGETHER

YOU CAN REPEAT THE unity and harmony appearance of the room by repeating certain colors, motifs, patterns, and textures or same looking objects could be identical objects like accent chairs and lamps at several places in a room according to the dimensions and style of the decorative theme. Just make sure you do not over decorate and use the identical looking items just to fill the spaces in the room. A successfully decorated room must have variety and contrast and a touch of drama now and then.

To test the floor plan arrangement of items or furniture groups, try to look at it from a perspective of a stage setting or as an artist who is examining a painting. Try to stand at a distance and look at your arrangements to find a loop hole or any mistake, look carefully if you need to add any particular color anywhere, keep experimenting, and try out different effects till you are satisfied with the setting.

HOW TO DECORATE WALLS

WALLS MAKE THE MAJOR part of the background of any room, giving them the right kind of treatment can be the success of your room decoration. Before commencing with room decorations study the walls well. If the room has dull walls try to make them look lively. If the walls are dead and are not treated well all the expensive furniture and decorative accessories on the walls will lose their attractiveness.

If you decide to refinish your walls make sure to select the treatment which will harmonize the mood and theme you want in your room. Depending on color and design of the room, walls can be neutral, forceful, and serene. The traditional walls are formal with paneling and delicate moldings, whereas modern interior walls are severely sleek and functional. There is nowadays so much variety and option available in wall finishes that if your room is normal in size and pleasing in proportions, and free from all structural flaws nothing will prevent you in working out any finish and color scheme that you select for your room décor. But if your walls are structurally and aesthetically wrong your selected finishes will not work according your visualization.

It is color in paints, wallpaper, and fabrics that performs magic in transforming the size, and shapes of the rooms.

Wall treatments and furniture arrangements and overall layout all contribute to correct the flaws. Study your walls in detail not only for flaws to be rectified but also for the possibilities of using them to add interesting decorative features of beauty and comfort. Fundamental changes in the background of room are only made when the house or the apartment is not a rented one, but if you own a place you can get the remodeling units in very wide variety of materials, sizes, colors, and textures which may include windows, doors, and woodworks. They are modular units with easy to do it yourself installation instructions.

Do you need to hang picture on every wall?

The key to any successful interior design is balance. That means when it comes to hanging pictures, no, you are not required to fill every blank wall space with pictures. Empty wall space can be used as a decisive design element to enhance your décor element.

Decorating Walls with Pictures:

There are very few occasions when you need to hang a picture on every wall in your home. The art of making a decision that what should go on the wall involves considering other décor elements.

- A picture should add depth and warmth to your design.
- A picture should be a complex design element to your overall décor.
- A dull wall can become lively with the right pictures and arrangements.
- Pictures can strengthen a formal or casual room design.

Pictures and Furnishings:

The pictures you add should blend in as though they've always been there. For that particular space, or as if custom made for that wall. Furniture pieces create natural breaks in a wall and present empty wall spaces that may be ideal for pictures. Examine the shapes and patterns the furnishings create around the empty wall space. Decide

whether the space should be filled with a composition of paintings or to leave it empty.

Examples of furnishings breaking up wall space include:

- Tall floor lamps in front of a wall become part of the overall wall design by virtual of shape, size, and height. The tall lamps will frame the empty space beside it, so you do not need a picture here.

- Sideboards or console tables that support table lamps, plants and other objects will break up the wall space leaving blank wall space that can be occupied with one or more pictures.
- Bookcases can define wall space available for using pictures, such as above the bookcase or beside it.
- A reading corner consisting of a side table, lamp, and chair is ideal for pictures on the wall behind the chair and/or the table to add depth and warmness to the vignette.

Adjoining Walls

Consider the furniture and any architectural characters on adjoining walls and how these break up wall space. Often, you will want to skip adding a picture on the joining walls.

For example, you may decide:

. A full wall shelf filled with decorative objects is the desired design element you want for an adjacent wall.

. Leave the wall space empty on either side of a door so the wall color becomes a more outstanding part of your design, giving the room a brusque and uncluttered look.

Keeping these guidelines in mind you can now decide for you by carefully examining the situation of the walls in any room, and make a right decision of decorating it. Just make sure it aesthetically looks pleasing and not over done, and blends with the environment.

ANSWERS TO
SEVERAL DIFFICULT
WALL AND WINDOW PROBLEMS

ANSWER TO DIFFICULT WALL AND WINDOWS

YOU CAN SEE IN THIS picture before and after views of two types of corner beams that present different solutions to the same problem. At lower right two single beams were covered with book shelves and storage cabinets built to allow comfortable bed couch between them. The window picture was stretched by carrying the drapes from window to book shelves and hiding the walls above by a shaped fabric valance. The result is dramatic and can be repeated in any room.

This particular layout will work out well in narrow rooms but at the same time it is just not limited to that. In a much wider room the book shelves could be made wider across the front. In the rough sketches both right and left a structural flaw is shown which is usually considered hopeless, but actually it can be taken care of pretty easily by any of the methods suggested here. Techniques such as this could be excellently adopted for setting off the end of the narrow room as a small dining room or the game room and shelves could be used for small personal books library.

A window treatment is an interior decorating design element placed on, in, around, or over a window. Mostly, a target of professional window treatment is to install the elements which enhance the aesthetics of the window and the room. “You should consider treating the windows with equal levels of interest like rest of the room décor”.

Treatments for covering the window may include:

Hard treatments –

Window treatments are made of hard materials like wood or vinyl.

Window shutters –

Window shutters are usually installed into the window frame and are horizontal slats, made either of wood or a poly resin that can

either be immobile or tilt. They do not move up and down like blinds but in certain applications can fold across the window.

Types of shutters include:

a. Wood shutters

b. Poly resin shutters

Window blinds have louvers which allow one to open to a view without lifting the shade. It allows one to maneuver the light to create a customized feel. The name blinds comes from their use in blocking people from seeing into a home; they basically “blind the observers view”. Over time, many new options and designs have developed, including anti-dust features and fabric tapes for blinds.

Types of blinds include:

Wooden blinds

Faux wood blinds (Also known as Pals wood)

Aluminum blinds

Window shades are a piece of fabric which rolls, stacks or folds, opening to a view only when the shade is rolled upwards. That was the classic definition, now certain shades do allow for “view through”. Depending on the requirement of the client

Soft treatments are anything made of soft materials.

Curtains

Drapery

Treatments around the window include:

Molding (decorative)

Cornice board or Pelmet

Window valance

Treatments applied to directly to the glass include:

Frosted glass

Smart glass

Stained glass

WINDOW TREATMENT STYLES

NAKED WINDOWS ARE HARDLY ever the best choice when decorating a room. Window treatments—whether piped, pleated, puddle, or plain—add fluidity and softness to a room's hard edges. And in terms of practicality, they add privacy and light control. They also can help hide a room's flaws or accentuate its charms.

Three of designs—fabric, texture, and pattern—come into play when you are selecting the perfect and the most suitable treatment. But choosing the type of treatment your room needs is the first order of business.

Here are the some timeless treatments that will inspire and guide you through the looks that stylish windows are wearing.

VALANCES

A valance is a little bit of fabric that does a big job when it comes to adding a decorative element to a curtain or window treatment. It hangs across the top of a window, adding softness, color, and pattern to a hard architectural element. Purely decorative, a valance helps setting up a room's style. At its most basic, a slip of fabric can be attached to a rod with clip rings. For adding more details, add pinch pleats.

Simple Valances

The simple valance is an informal treatment that works well for family areas such as the kitchen, breakfast room, and bathroom. When privacy is a concern, the valance easily pairs up with a hard treatment, such as a blind, shade, or shutters.

Box-Pleated Valances

Those who appreciate a classic decorating style will fall in love with the box-pleated valance. This tailored treatment is a natural in rooms where you want a formal air, such as a living room, dining

room, or master bedroom. The stationary treatment's crisp stitched pleats lie flat against a mounting board, which is typically attached to the wall with simple L-shape brackets.

Simple Swags

Sometimes a simply knotted scarf worn around the neck is the perfect accent for an outfit. A simple swag on a window dresses up a room the same way. A loosely slung fabric strip, unlined or lined, draped over a decorative rod or wound over a tieback at each top corner of a window frame can add an abundance of style. The middle of the fabric strip acts as a valance; the ends, whether cut into opposing diagonals or simply hemmed, softly hang down the sides of the window.

Balloon Shades

This luxurious fabric shade features cascading scallops that finish in graceful, blousy folds along the bottom. Cords strung though rings on the back make the shade movable, and as the treatment is raised, the vertical gathers create dramatic effects. Because this treatment most of the times remain rose, it acts as a valance more often than a shade. The amount of fabric used—at least twice the width of the window—creates the lavish look.

Tie – Up Shades

Sometimes called a stagecoach-style shade, this economical treatment uses fabric in its most un-construct form: It hangs flat from a rod or mounting board, and then the bottom edge is hand-rolled or folded to the desired position. Fabric ties, ribbons, or cords hold the rolls or folds in place. Adjusting the shade requires untying and rerolling it by hand, making this treatment more decorative than functional. Consider using it where you're likely to leave the shade down to hide an unsightly view.

Roman Shades

For giving the look of luxury without yards of flowing fabric, a Roman shade is a wise choice. When closed, the shade is a flat fabric panel. When raised, cascades of deep, horizontal folds are responsible for the tidy look. Cords strung through rings on the back of the fabric give the shade its mobility. Some Roman shades are made without lining, resulting in looser, puffier folds.

Cornices

Think of a cornice as a wood valance, it is typically made from plywood, assembled with wood screws and corner brackets, then painted or covered with wallpaper or fabric and mounted to the wall above a window. Like a valance, a cornice can appear alone or team with another treatment. Because it is usually made of wood, a cornice benefits from being paired with a soft treatment, such as a curtain or fabric shade, to temper its hard lines.

Rod Pocket Panels

In this treatment, the curtain rod simply slips through a channel sewn into the panel's top edge. The tighter the fit, the more dramatic the shirring is. For a ruffled header, sew a pocket a few inches down from the top edge; when the rod is pushed through, the fabric above it fans out to form a ruffle.

Panels with rings

Metal hooks used to be standard fare for hanging draperies. Stuck into the back of a panel, the hardware was out of sight. No more. Wood or metal rings that slide along a pole allow you to put hardware in a starring role, complementing practically any style of drapery. In addition being fashionable, panels with rings are easy to open and close and offer an alternative to anyone who dislikes the cord-and-pulley system of traverse rods.

Pleated panels

In window treatments, pleated drapery panels are the classics. They survive the whims of window fashion, adding elegance and style to any room. There are several styles of pleats, all of which are sewn into a panel's top edge to create a decorative header. Pleats are often formed with the help of header tape, which is available by the yard at fabrics stores. Sewn to the panel's back, the tape forms pleats when pulled. Hooks are then inserted into the tape and hung on rings, or more typically traverse rods, which have a cord-and-pulley system for opening and closing the panels.

These few styles of window décor never run out of style for conventional and modern architectural interiors.

WALLPAPER VS. PAINT

If you are not sure whether to decorate your walls with paint of wallpaper? Here is few advantages and disadvantages of both discussed, you can figure out the best choice out of these two, according to the what you have visualized and what mood and effect you want to give to a particular room. Many well designed interior spaces incorporate both paint and wallpaper in decoration of the room.

ADVANTAGES OF WALLPAPER

The life of the wallpaper can last upto 15 years and beyond that, this makes wallpaper cost effective in the longer run. Usually if wallpaper is pasted correctly it will last 3 times longer than paint. Wallpapers adhere easily and very smoothly to the wall and hide

many wall surface flaws. Wallpaper also adds warmth color, depth, and style to the room against the application of monotone paint which cannot achieve this kind of effect.

Various design styles from floral to geometric with many textures and compositions adds a beautiful effect of the room décor. Wallpaper can also be applied only to one wall or two as you have visualized for a particular room to make them feature walls

DISADVANTAGES OF WALLPAPER

The process of wallpaper application to walls is more time consuming than paint. If you decide at some point in time to change it, you cannot simply paint over it or apply new wallpaper over the old one without making some preparations.

Many modern types of wallpaper (non-woven) strip off from walls in large sheets whereas the old wallpapers cannot and it becomes a very time consuming and tedious process to remove them from walls.

ADVANTAGES OF PAINT

Paint can be purchased at low cost and most of the people can do the paint job by themselves, all they need to do is buy the necessary material required. There are many types of paint available in the market some are water based and some are oil based.

DISADVANTAGES OF PAINT

Paint can only provide color in limited spectrum of finishes from matte to glossy. While wallpaper comes in bright designs and beautiful effects like pearl and glitter. One of the biggest disadvantages of paint is that it chips off and can crack under certain temperature conditions, applying paint can be messy and if not taken proper care off while applying, it may stain your floors, furniture, and appliances like electric switches.

Paint usually last 5 to 10 years, there is a bigger chance that you will have to repaint often**.**

So if you need to paint your room all by yourself, here is a list you should consider:

PAINT PROJECT CHECKLIST

Project preparations:

1. Sandpaper
2. Caulk and Caulk Gun
3. Hole Filler
4. Putty Knife

5. Drop Cloth
6. Painter's Tape

7. Primer

Painting

1. Extension Pole
2. Ladder
3. Brushes
4. Roller and Frames
5. Edger's
6. Paint Trays
7. Paint Sprayer

Finish and clean

1. Cleaning Rags
2. Paper Towels
3. Paint Thinner
4. Disposable Gloves
5. Surface Cleaners
6. Sponges
7. Trash Bags
8. Bucket

These are some of the tips to get professional results:

If your project (your rooms) is big, plan your time carefully so that you complete painting the walls and not leave in middle of painting, because if you do you may not achieve a uniform painting result.

Select and buy quality products (materials) including paints, brushes, and sand papers for smooth results.

Make sure you have all the material before starting the project so you don't have to leave your job to get some.

Get better results by distributing or cutting in 3 to 4 ft segments of walls at a time, than rolling the whole wall with paint.

When using multiple cans of paints, always use a larger bucket to mix them together for better mixing of color and achieve a professional wall painting results.

Create a wet edge for blended smoother look by rolling from painted area to unpainted area.

Roll paint in 3x3 feet pattern area.

Hopefully these tips and guidelines will make you perform well with the paint task. The important thing once again is to make a road map of things that you should consider before starting with either the paint job or the wallpaper installation. Be clear in your head what effect you want to get that matches your visualization for that particular room.

Make a checklist of steps that must be carried out in sequential order to ensure the safety and perfection of the job at hand. Wall decor of the room mostly need two types of treatment, firstly the “architectural treatment” this happens when there is an odd window or a niche disturbs the continuity of your décor plan. Handling that kind of scenario smartly will be an architectural treatment of the room; this scenario is mentioned through an illustration in the previous page. Second is the “wall decoration or wall décor treatment” this is the kind of treatment when you decorate the walls of the room by making them feature walls through the installation of wallpapers or paint or maybe both if suits your visualization. Hanging paintings and wall hangings on walls, installations of the wall mounted bookshelves or other decorative wood treatment fits in this category of décor, examples of these scenarios are also discussed earlier.

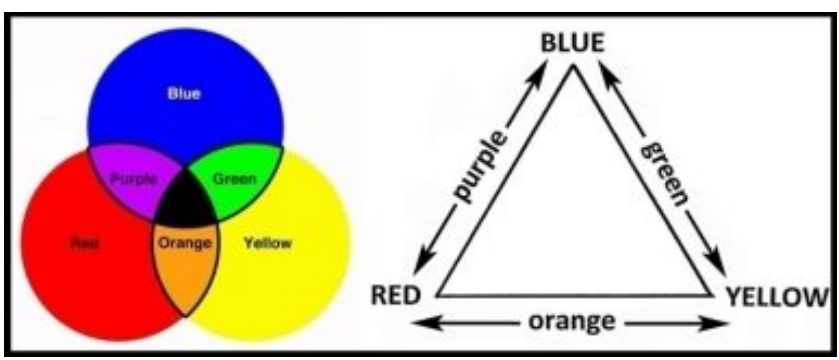
Understanding and developing of your aesthetics is important, don’t worry you will gradually learn this by improving your habit of observation of interesting works of decoration around you, building a visual library of references for different stages from furniture layout plans to the modern trends of using soft furnishing, like draperies and upholsteries, from the selection of different kind of decorative pieces like table lamps to attractive paintings. Improving such creative abilities can only happen depending upon the level of your interest.

Danish inspired living room with wallpaper and paint

USING COLOR EFFECTIVELY

COLOR IS YOUR MOST effective decorative tool. You must make it work for you. You will find it in use around you everywhere, in every room giving warmth, style, character, dullness, brightness, softness, and royalty. It brings monotony and harmony into the room and at the same time breaks them as well. The use of color is easy to understand because its every aspect will take you back to nature. Rainbow provides color spectrum from which artists, designers, and decorators derive their color pallet and color schemes for projects.

The meanings we associate with the color language are those which nature has made familiar to us. For example warm colors in the red and orange spectrum are those which remind us of fire and brilliant hues of tropical blossoms in hot climates. The meanings of colors are subjected to endless modifications as we keep on mixing the primary colors, red, blue, and yellow.



In general the warm fire colors are cheerful, dramatic, and interesting; the warm colors of sunlight are gay, cheerful, and mostly useful. Green is a helpful link between different colors and a perfect peaceful background for rooms.

TYPES OF COLOR

NATURALLY COLOR FALLS into two categories or groups, warm and cool, with large combinations of transitional group's in-between. There are also neutral colors like black and white. Each group colors have general characteristics and the knowledge of these characteristics or qualities will enable you to use them artistically in your decoration of rooms.

Warm advancing colors: Red and yellow are always considered to be the warm colors, along with orange which falls in-between the color wheel circle. These colors appear to look closer to you, but they are not actually. For this particular reason they are known as near or advancing warm colors. Any mixed hue in which yellow, orange, or red predominated automatically becomes a warm near or advancing color even in its dull or dim shades.

All the rich and dark colors will have a mixture of one of the warm colors and to some degree will have a quality of advancing. For example one color series ranges from ivory and cream through tan, peach, rose, pink, and carol too deep colors like rust, burgundy, and each one of these will be categorized as warm advancing colors.

Cool subsiding colors: Blue without any doubt is the center of cool colors category, the feeling of coolness it creates is similar to water, ice and skies. When you look at blue objects it takes on the quality of being at distance, and it appears to be away than in reality. Therefore this color group is known as distinct or subsiding group. It includes all of mixed colors in which blue overcomes; also white and the light tints of most other colors resulting from mixtures with large proportions of white.

Warm Advancing Color Scheme

You can observe in this picture the smart use of warm tones mainly through the use of wood in décor. Various textures along with patterns used in a balanced harmony give the overall picture a warm mood. The ceiling with its earthly toned paint creates a dramatic appeal to the whole scene. The use of warm tones and at times with a blend of cool subsiding color pallet is inspired from the traditional Danish style of décor. The pleasant feeling of warmth generally decorators prefer to create for a cold and damp climate regions. You can notice that different color of books in the background creates and bring contrast to the interior decor.

Since warm colors usually carry dark and intense tones, they tend to make bigger space look smaller and cozy. It is at time difficult for interior decorators to play entirely with monotonous tones of warm colors. Warm tones of different colors stand out pretty obvious and stark or dark object in interior decor environment stand dominant. This can make the whole interior scene look boring, to overcome this decorator's use contrasting color decorative objects and furnishing to control the feeling of monotony.

Whereas cool tones in an interior spaces are easy to handle when it comes to decorating, the soothing and dreamy effects of pastel and light color tones liven up the interior, decorator's again in such

environment play with contrasting colors to make sure the decorative scene do not look monotonous and boring. You can also use darker tones ones of cool colors to make some feature walls and against such darker tones walls you can place your decorative arrangements.

There is one interesting consideration, many of the warm color decorations suits classical interior themes and cool color schemes suit modern interior spaces. Most of the Scandinavian style of decoration suits modern themed interior spaces. Many Asian countries switch to cooler color schemes in interior spaces in summers and to warm advancing colors in winters. Whereas most of the countries in Europe stick to warm color schemes due to the cold climate and classic architectural style.

Cool Residing Color Scheme

You can notice the pale blue tone creates a soothing effect in this interior space which is based on modern architecture. The decorator of this space controlled the monotony of the blue dominating tones by introducing white color in different places even with the introduction of natural wood colored dining table and white crockery on the table. You can also observe the feeling of openness of space when cool color tones are used wisely.

The whole interior decor is very much inspired by the Scandinavian style of decoration. The Danish Hygge concept of coziness can also

be seen in such kind of interiors decor. The feeling of being happy and living in a space that provides the joy of calmness comes with such tones of cool colors but at the time using warm colors sensibly can also bring in the same feeling of coziness.

The concept of Danish cultural Hygge has turned into a globally excepted style of interior design and décor. The bottom line with the Danish concept of Hygge is anything that brings joy and the feeling of togetherness and coziness in or around you, no matter if it's the interior design environment, a room décor or lifestyle statement.

THE VALUE OF NEUTRAL COLOR

The gray tones are valuable in decorating rooms both as background and as in products arrangements. You can neutralize or gray a brighter paint by adding a little of gray color. The most of the aggressive or sharp and loud colors can be neutralized into soft backgrounds by adding gray color. Neutral brown has a useful harmonizing quality like gray.

RELATING ROOM TO PEOPLE WHO USE THEM

COLOR HAS ALWAYS BEEN a useful tool to personalize rooms through a strong expression of individual taste, and style. Surely every one of us has a certain favorite color, he or she likes to use in the decoration of the rooms, in general men usually likes and prefer backgrounds of darker and much stronger color tones as compared to women. Women and young people on the other hand like much brighter color tones in décor. Make sure the color combinations that you chose for any one of the genders is used in right combination in an interior decor environment.

HOW TO FIND COLOR SCHEME INSPIRATION

THE WORLD OF ART AND the world of nature both are filled with answers to your color problems. But the color combinations that are found in art have more variations and color choosing options and are more easily adopted and frequently used. Choosing color combinations from paintings, fabric patterns, or wallpapers are much easier as you can actually see how different colors look together. Also you can observe the quantity of one color used against the other that makes it stand out in the picture of look amazing and if you like them you can use these color combinations into the decoration of your rooms.

GIVING FINISHING TOUCHES TO YOUR INTERIOR

ACCESSORIES ARE THE finishing touches that complete your room and harmonize your design scheme. From well-chosen wall art to designer cushions and tapestry throws, it is these finishing touches and fine details that help bring your interior together and make your home personal as well as stylish.

Here are a few tricks the professionals use to add that final flourish and add the perfect finishing touches to your home interior.

Think about the style and theme of the room and choose your accessories accordingly. Keep your room's style in mind when choosing accessories and do not start shopping until you have settled on the more permanent aspects of your design. The finishing touches are a chance for you to actually show your personality at home. Choose pieces that are significant to you and reflect the way you live. Let your choice of accessories tell a story. Texture creates instant visual interest in your design scheme; use different fabrics and finishes throughout your soft furnishings to add dimension and give your room an instant lift.

Changing your accessories throughout the year is one of the most cost effective strategies for keeping your design scheme fresh. Introduce rich, deep colours, spiced scented candles and a touch of sparkle to usher in the festive period, or lighten up your space with a fresh room scent, linen cushions, and soft blue accents to bring in the feeling of spring.

Your bedroom is one of the most personal spaces in the home. Luxury scented candles bring a calming fragrance into your room, while soft cashmere throws and fluffy cushions can help make your bed cozy, welcoming, and warm.

Your bathroom accessories should be practical in use and decorative. If your room lacks color, use your bath linens, shower curtain, to add new interest to the space. You can ensure the

scheme all comes together by using delicate repetition through colours, shapes, materials, and finishes in your design.

The living room is traditionally the room where we host guests, and for most families the living room today is also at the heart of family living. Choose a mix of accessories here to add the finishing touches to your room; small storage solutions will help keep your space comfortable while a rug will help to create a stylish furniture grouping and help make the space feel cozy. Decorative book ends, ornaments and decorative vases give you a chance to show off your most prized possessions and showcase your personality and stacking books on shelving or side tables will create interest and visual height.

The accessories and finishing touches you choose will make your kitchen a delight to cook in. Start with a practical list of what you need and look for interesting accessories and fixtures that meet your requirements and boost your design scheme. Bright kitchen accessories and statement furnishings in every color of the rainbow are perfect for injecting some fun into your kitchen.

Use accessories to create a friendly dining environment for your family and friends. Designer barware, flickering candles, statement centre pieces, and serving dishes add visual volume to your dining room.

All these finishing touches will add that extra flavor of freshness and creative approach to your interior design.

PART 03

THE HANDY TIPS

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO be an interior designer to decorate your home; it is all about making a space your own with whatever you have available. All you need to do is build a visual reference library and from time to time refresh the ideas. This kind of visual practice will give you the exposure and also instant decision making about and particular space. Do not be shy to experiment, with time, exposure, and experience you will be able to develop your aesthetic abilities when it comes to space planning and decorating.

Here are a few warm up tips that can help you.

Interior Design Planning Tips

WHEN planning a self-build, spend the money on the stuff that is there forever. Think of the architecture, glazing, and core materials.

Avoid fancy and random buying by working within a carefully chosen color palette and plan wisely to ensure the finished scheme works as a whole complete picture, to do this you must visualize every aspect of design planning. Especially the end picture you have in mind.

When you first shift to a new place ask advice from friends to see what they think about the space, consider their ideas, and take inspirations from ideas that you think will work with slight modifications and tweaks.

The best interior designs are those that take you & your lifestyle into consideration. Try to bring your character into design.

Always keep functionality and practicality in mind when designing your interior spaces, do not get over ambitious, and over do your designs.

Interior Design is very personal, to create a dream interior always try to base it on the some kind of philosophy. The philosophy consists of creating a décor aesthetic of richly done rooms that merge together serious style and playful individualism.

Instead of always following the latest design trend, decorate your interior spaces with timeless pieces collection.

Always make your home a reflection of its inhabitants while building an interior design concept.

Create mood boards to help you visualize the end result. This will also help you to find and illuminate any flaws.

Don’t worry about what others will think. Design and decorate the room the way you want. And decorate the space with your desired

things with an aim to make it aesthetically pleasing.

Start with the end in mind. Know what you are trying to accomplish by setting a brief, getting clear on what the mood and style needs to be and build a visual representation of your purpose.

Make lot of plans. Always make scaled plan drawings and set out every single item. It will tell you everything you need to know about how the space will function at a very initial phase of design.

FURNITURE TIPS

CHOOSE plain colours as backgrounds for the patterned furniture pieces but try to choose interesting fabrics.

Round tables in small rooms make the space flow better

While designing interiors, especially for a small space, do not place everything on the floor as this would clutter the floor, and make the room appear visually smaller than it actually is.

Consider how the room is used and how many people will use it. That will dictate the type of furnishings you will require and the amount of seating required.

Identify the room's focal point — a fireplace, view, television etc, and orient the furniture accordingly.

Symmetrical planning work best for formal rooms, irregular arrangements make a room feel more casual.

Think about the flow of traffic through the room generally the path between doorways. Do not block that path with any large pieces of furniture; normally it looks odd and not planned. Try to direct traffic around a seating group, not through the middle of it.

Vary the size of furniture pieces throughout the room, so your eyes move up and down as you examine the space.

Combine straight and curved lines for contrast. If the furniture is modern and linear, throw in a round table for contrast.

In a dining room, make sure there is at least 48 inches between each edge of the table and the nearest wall or piece of furniture.

Before you move any actual furniture, test by drawing your design on paper. Measure the room's dimensions, location of windows, doors, heat registers and electrical outlets, then draw up a floor plan on graph paper using cutouts to represent the furnishings.

Do not stop decorating too soon.

Adding one accessory that is extra-large and out of proportion will make a room far more interesting

Remember aesthetics are very important; the first impression is the last, so do everything carefully. Make a checklist of everything before hand and follow it strictly to avoid any flaws that may occur if you do things without any proper planning.

Exploring your inner style and defining your expression

WHILE IDENTICAL WITH the fashion industry, “inner style” is fast becoming famous in home design. Exploring your inner style is about increasing and trusting your creative instincts in stating your expression. Give yourself exposure and develop your visual library.

- Read design articles for information and helpful tips
- Collect visual reference material from design and home magazines
- Visit fabric stores and familiarize yourself with different types of fabrics tapestries and colours
- Visit showrooms/houses and take information on tips on the use of furniture, fabrics, accessories and color
- Visit exhibitions specializing in design and the home
- Visit outdoor spaces and look to nature for natural colours and shapes for inspirations
- Visit gardens to get a sense of size, shape, proportions and color

THE PURPOSE OF THE ROOM

ROOMS SHOULD BE USED to their maximum potential. Thinking about a room's function is an important phase of design. A room often needs to be many things; a social area; a place of safety; play area; a study and a place of rest.

Before you start planning think clearly about the requirements of particular room, make a checklist of what needs to be done for a specific room and then develop a concept.

SPATIAL AWARENESS

SPATIAL AWARENESS IS about understanding the dimensions of any given space, inside or outside. This size of the room decides the size of the furniture and where it should be placed. Smaller rooms require greater consideration. Here are some tips to help maximize a small space:

- Use variations of shades and tones from a chosen any single color
- Add more texture to space than patterns
- Avoid hanging light fixtures from the ceiling. Invest in good scone type light fixtures and fixtures close to the ceiling
- Have a multiple of floor lamps directed to the ceiling for greater light and sense of height, especially at night
- Use a lighter shade of paint color on the ceiling and a slightly darker shade on the walls
- Make sure that all the wood; skirting, window panes and frames, doors are the same color as the walls to give it a sweeping feeling
- Hang the curtains from the ceiling to the floor. Alternatively use blinds to maximize space.
- Us a multiple of single seating arrangements, with single medium size sofa
- Never use centre tables. Place side tables strategically on the sides of any seating
- Use mirrors to reflect light and space illusions
- Use sleek vertical and horizontal photographs, paintings etc in the wall art to elongate the size of the wall

USE OF SHAPES

OBJECTS AND SCULPTURAL shapes in a room bring a tangible feeling and meaning to an interior space. Objects that capture the imagination bring an automatic response to touch, ensuring engagement, and conversation. Vases and sculptures are particularly tactile and add a focal point to the room.

If space is limited, it's a good idea to keep to one to two shapes in a room. Shapes usually play an important part in the decorating a home. Understanding how shapes work help when planning. For example the use of round shapes in a child's room will be more welcoming for the child as research show that children respond particularly well to round shapes. Adding softer shapes throughout the house in proportion to its size ensures balance, a sense of an open space, bringing a sense of calmness and tranquility.

FURNISHINGS AND FABRIC

FURNISHING AND FABRICS add softness and sensuality to a room. There are no hard and fast rules about which fabrics to use.

Below are some suggestions on how to optimize the effect of furnishings and fabrics.

- Choose a different of sizes for cushions, use plain designs and as an accent a contrasting texture
- Have both functional and decorative fabrics on furnishings and accessories, highlighting special areas such as a cabinet
- Decide the style of the patterns, if stripes then stay with stripes and keep circles with circles
- Use bold designs and colours as accents
- Keep drapes to a neutral color
- Use patterns and bold colours for floor cushions
- Use bright colours for dark corners
- Use fabrics as wall art – these can be framed or hung in the style of a tapestry on the walls mounted on decorative rods.

CHECKLIST

SUMMARY

STEP-BY-STEP TIPS FOR where to start and how to end with the perfect finish

MEASURE THE SPACE

Measure the space to determine the size of the furniture and furnishings you should be looking for. Rooms need air to breathe and you don’t want to be shuffling between huge pieces of furniture that overpower the room. Equally you don’t want key pieces to look lost among high ceilings and large white walls. As a rule of thumb, allow 60cm of circulation space around each piece of furniture, or 40cm at the least for ‘access’ areas i.e. between a sofa and a coffee table.

CREATE A MOOD BOARD

One of the most fun parts of the process now is the time to look for inspiration and bring your vision to life with a picture board. Search the internet, have a browse on Pinterest and Instagram, and flick through home magazines to choose your style. Consider the colours, textures, and patterns that match your style and theme. For a classical theme for example, stick to gold, whites and reds, and rich materials like velvets or embroidered fabrics. For a more modern style concentrating on simplicity, with light woods, geometric shapes or curves, and neutral colours such as cream, beige, and grey

CREATE A BUBBLE PLAN

A bubble plan helps divide up the room in a practical way, making sure special awareness, and allows you to focus on the items needed for each zone. Take a piece of paper and, using a pencil, draw bubbles for each different section of the room. For example in a bedroom, you would have a bubble for the bed, perhaps a bubble for a reading corner, and a dressing area. Make sure you take into account all the important things, like power points, door, and windows.

RESEARCH THE MARKET AND CREATE A SAMPLE BOARD

Now it's time to visit the shops. Firstly, you need to make sure your vision is possible within your budget and that the products you have in your head are available in the market. If you live in an apartment, Visit all kinds of stores and warehouses, take pictures, and ask for as many samples as possible. You can then add these to your mood board to make sure the colours, patterns and textures all work together. Once you are happy with your sample board, you're ready to reach for the wallet!

BRING YOUR VISION TO LIFE

Always start with the difficult parts first. Complete any painting, varnishing, and window treatments, and then hang the curtains, drapes, or blinds. At this phase all the key big pieces should be arranged in the relevant zones, and finally the soft furnishings can be put in place. If at this point you feel you're lacking something such as a splash more color, it's easy to add more soft furnishings if required, but remember homes aren't built in a day, and you have plenty of time to add beautiful things over time. Have fun, enjoy it.

Hopefully by following all the information mentioned in the book you will be able to decorate your home the way you want like professional interior designers. Do not hesitate to experiment and try something new. Good luck.

Good luck with your new projects!!